yh COMICS

くちびる ためいき さくらいろ

森永みるく

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Kiss, sigh and cherryblossoms pink.
——the material of love.

yh COMICS

くちびるためいき さくらいろ

森永みるく

一迅社

Your Home COMICS

Kiss, sigh and cherryblossoms pink.
——the material of love.

TSUBAKI HIME COMICS 既刊好評発売中
A5判　定価：各900円 税込

ストロベリーシェイクSweet ——— ①
林家志弦

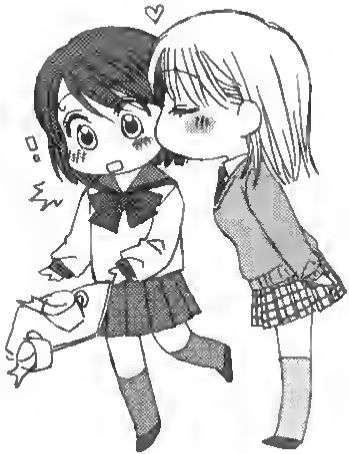
くちびる ためいき さくらいろ
森永みるく

COMMENT

森永みるく

MILK MORINAGA

IT'S LIKE A DREAM THAT I'M ABLE TO PUT OUT A FULL COMPILED VOLUME OF YURI MANGA. CUTE GIRLS REALLY SHOULD STICK WITH OTHER CUTE GIRLS, HM? I'M ALWAYS THINKING THAT, BUT IT SEEMS TO BE A UNIVERSAL RULE NOW SOMEHOW. THANK YOU, GOD, TRULY! AND YOU!



MILK MORINAGA

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Kisses, Sighs, and Cherry-Blossom Pink

You have a small chest too, Senpai!
...You're the sort of person who holds a grudge, aren't you?

A Kiss, Love, and a Prince

Sensei... You have something behind you...
Still there.
Huh?!

If I Kiss Her Ring Finger

I'm gonna add all the wine~!
hiccup
fret fret

First published in
Yuri Shimai vol 1–vol 5
Comic Yuri Hime vol 1 vol 2

☆Special Thanks☆

All the works in this volume were in keeping with my interests, so I had a lot of fun drawing them. But these two, the ones I drew the first story about, have a special place in my heart. They're my favorite couple. So I ended up putting them on the cover and in a bunch of other illustrations in this book... I'm really... reaaaaally... happy to have been able to draw so much yuri manga, which I love, and to have it compiled into a book. ♔ Ah, such joy. ♔ I'm grateful to Nakamura-san, who gave me free rein, and to the friends who always helped me out. ♥ And to all my readers: Thank you, from the bottom of my heart... You have my gratitude. ♔ I'd like to draw many more girlxgirl love stories.

2005.12 Morinaga

Kisses, Sighs, and Cherry-Blossom Pinks
I'm Morinaga Milk. Thank you for buying my first all-yuri compilation. I really went to town writing about all my favorite kinds of girls. I'll be happy if you like my manga even just a bit. I'm going to keep on doing my best, so please continue to support meeee!
Morinaga Milk
I tried to draw them with tigers ever since Tora-tora-tora was a hit, but they look weird.

*NOTE A BOOKSTORE "TORA" MEANS "TIGER."

HELLO, HITOMI?
IT'S NANA! UH... WHAT TIME ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE THE ENTRANCE EXAMS FOR SAKURAKAI TOMORROW?
I HOPE WE BOTH PASS, YOU KNOW?
oh
ahahaha
JUST OUR LUCK IF WE'RE PUT IN DIFFERENT CLASSES, HUH?
I'M SORRY, NANA
EVEN IF I TAKE THE EXAM FOR THE SAKURAKAI GIRL'S SCHOOL, I WON'T BE ABLE TO GO
HUH...? WHY?
SEE, TOUHOU ALSO HAD ONE, SO I TOOK IT, AND...

WE WERE SEPARATED FOR SO LONG, BUT NOW...!?

even if we're not friends.

MORINAGA MIRUKU

EDITED BY: KALIA
TRANSLATED BY: CIRRUS
SCANNED BY: TINY SNOWFAIRY

LILILICIOUS • MAY IT'S FRAGRANCE ENCOMPASS YOU
#LILILICIOUS@IRC.MIRCX.COM

NANA! YOU BETTER GET UP SOON OR YOU'LL BE LATE FOR SCHOOL!
I AM UP!
IT'S ALREADY BEEN TWO MONTHS SINCE MY FIRST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL BEGAN.
AND I STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN A SINGLE LETTER OR CALL FROM HER
SHUT...
I'D ALWAYS BEEN IN THE SAME CLASS AS MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND, HITOMI IN GRADE SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH.
WE WERE THE BEST OF FRIENDS
HUH!?
IT SAYS... "A BOY IN YOUR CLASS WILL BECOME...
YOUR RIV...!?!
TAP
TAP
"BEFORE THE APPEARANCE OF A NEW BOY, WHO WILL BE THE OBSTACLE ALONG YOUR PATH"...
OOH! WHAT'S TODAY'S LOVE HOROSCOPE FOR GEMINI SAY??

NOPE. NOT ONE. NADA. DON'T WORRY. NOT ME!
HO HOOO ...
IS THERE SUCH A BOY IN THIS CLASSROOM? HMM?
HITOMI... WHY DO YOU CHECK FOR NANA'S HOROSCOPE INSTEAD OF YOUR OWN?
STOMP!
HUMBLE BOYS LIKE YOURSELVES COULD NEVER POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND, BUT ..
NANA IS LIKE A BUDDING ROSE THAT I HAVE CARED FOR AS A MOTHER!
B-BUDDING?
YOU LOVE ME BEST, RIGHT NANA?
YEAH YEAH
OH, NANA! ALL THE BOY'S ARE NOTHING BUT WOLVES!
LOVE
GLOMP GLOMP
UH, HEY... ARE YOU GUYS IN LIKE... THAT KIND RELATIONSHIP?
THUMP THUMP

"LOVE" WAS MY FERTILIZER... AND UNTIL THE DAY WHEN SHE'LL BLOSSOM INTO A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER...
I'LL ROAST ANY BUG THAT DARES TURN HER INTO ASHES! THAT IS MY DUTY!!
BEHOLD MY CRIMSON FLAMES!!
HOW CAN FUJIMORI BE SUCH A BABE AND STILL HAVE A TEMPER LIKE A STORM?
NANA... YOU'LL NEVER GET A BOYFRIEND.
IT'S OKAY. I'VE ALREADY GIVEN UP ON THAT.
Sigh...
I COULD NEVER SAY IT, BUT SHE WAS ABSOLUTELY RADIANT IN MY EYES
SHE WAS CUTE, TALL, AND SMART.
SHE EVEN DAZZLED THE BOYS, BUT—
SHE WAS ALWAYS HANGING ONTO MY ARM NO MATTER HOW OLD WE GOT...

SO— I THOUGHT IT WOULD ALWAYS BE THAT WAY
I THOUGHT FOR SURE WE'D BE IN THE SAME CLASS FOR HIGH SCHOOL, TOO
BUT THAT'S ONLY WHAT I THOUGHT
KOBA-YASHI-CHAN
HEY! KOBAYASHI-CHAN!
BIG NEWS! A BOY FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL JUST CONFESSED TO CHIGUSA!
CONFESSED? COME ON! HE JUST TOLD ME HIS NAME!!
Ooh!
WEREN'T YOU LISTENING?
I'M SO SORRY!
...HUH!? OH, S-SORRY! WHAT IS IT?

EDITED BY: KALIA
TRANSLATED BY: CHIKUSA
SCANNED BY: TINY SNOWFAIRY

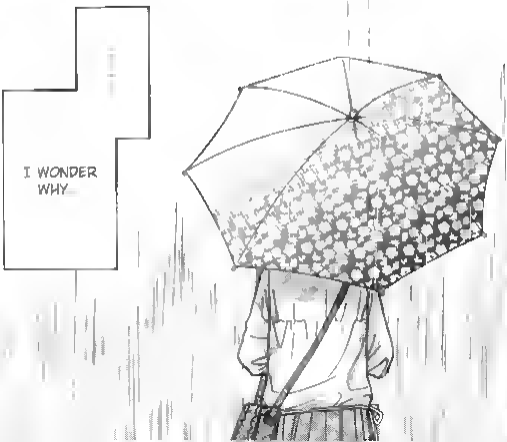
BUT EVER SINCE I ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL, I'VE BEEN HAVING TROUBLE MAKING CLOSE FRIENDS
MY CLASS IS FULL OF GIRLS THAT I GET ALONG GREAT WITH
WE'RE ALL TOGETHER IN THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM THAT WE'LL BE PART OF FROM JUNIOR HIGH UP UNTIL COLLEGE
THAT WAS WHAT SHE SAID, AND SHE PUSHED ME TO COME HERE..
IT'D LOOK SO TOTALLY COOL ON YOU! COME ON! I'LL TRY TO GET INTO IT TOO!
THIS UNIFORM IS JUST SO ADORABLE! YOU SHOULD TOTALLY GO TO THIS SCHOOL!
hug
Uh-h I'll have to ask my parents first.
Sailor uniform!
SPEAKING OF WHICH
I'M SURE EVERYTHING WOULD'VE BEEN FINE IF I WERE STILL WITH HITOMI.
sasa
THERE IS ONE WAY TO FIND OUT WHETHER OR NOT YOU LIKE HIM.
REALLY? HOW!?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT HE'S LIKE! OR IF I LIKE HIM.
BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I WANNA GO OUT WITH HIM OR NOT!
WELL, SHE DID TAKE THE EXAM, BUT SHE DIDN'T GET IN! I WAS TRICKED!!
O.O DIOT.

KISSING?
TRY TO IMAGINE YOURSELF KISSING HIM
YUP. AND THEN IF YOU THINK "UGH! NO WAY!!" THEN IT'S ONLY LOGICAL THAT IT MEANS YOU DON'T LIKE HIM
LOVE WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE BETWEEN YOU TWO, IF YOU CAN'T EVEN STAND A KISS
yup yup
A KISS
AND THAT'S HOW YOU CAN TELL IF YOU REALLY LIKE HIM OR NOT
I COULDN'T SAY THAT I— WOULDN'T LIKE IT
!
gasp
oh you hahahahah

even if we're not friends.
HUH? UH, WELL...
hee hee
HOW ABOUT YOU, KOBAYASHI-CHAN? DID YOU EVER HAVE A CRUSH ON SOMEONE OR A BOYFRIEND IN JUNIOR HIGH? YOU WENT TO A COED SCHOOL, RIGHT?
WHY NOT!?
NAH, I DON'T NEED ONE
OH, I CAN'T STAND IT! I WANT A BOYFRIEND OVER SUMMER BREAK!
WELL, THEY'RE ANNOY-ING!
CHATTER CHATTER
I... DIDN'T HAVE ONE.
SUPER DUPER SPICY
HMM, MAYBE THIS ONE...
THE ONLY PLANS I HAVE FOR THE WEEKEND, ARE GOING TO THE CONVENIENCE STORE. TALK ABOUT LAME
eeRRRm
THE TRUTH IS, THROUGHOUT ALL THE YEARS I WENT TO A COED SCHOOL, I DIDN'T MAKE A SINGLE BOY FRIEND
EVEN THOUGH I SAID THAT...
OD MART
24

EDITED BY: KALIA
TRANSLATED BY: CIRRUS
SCANNED BY: TINY SNOWFAIRY

Look! Look!
WOW, THEY'RE ALSO SELLING FRESH FLOWERS HERE
WE USED TO PLAY WITH THE THORNS FROM THE SCHOOL CAMPUS ALL THE TIME
It's so hot but I can't stop!
THIS WAS ALWAYS HITOMI'S FAVORITE CANDY!
MAYBE I SHOULD BUY THEM FOR HER!


I WONDER WHY...

WHY DOES EVERYTHING I LOOK AT REMIND ME OF HER?
Zaaa
EVEN THOUGH
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T EVEN GO WALKING IN THE RAIN
NANA?
WHAT?
NO, IT CAN'T BE!
NANA! LONG TIME NO SEE!

HER HAIR
HITO--
HITOMI, IS SHE A FRIEND?
YUP FROM WHEN WE WERE IN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
YOU MEAN, FROM 10TH GRADE?
SHE'S CALLING HER BY HER FIRST NAME?
YUP, THAT ONE.
ARE YOU OUT SHOPPING, NANA?
YUP. THERE WAS SPORTS PRACTICE IT ENDED EARLY 'CUZ OF THE RAIN
SPORTS ..?
YEAH! I'M ON THE BASKET-BALL TEAM!
YEAH, AND YOU? YOU HAVE SCHOOL ON SUNDAYS TOO?
OH IS THAT WHY YOU... CUT YOUR HAIR?
YUP. IT'S NICE SHORT, DON'T YOU THINK?
THAT'S RIGHT. OF COURSE HITOMI WOULD MAKE NEW FRIENDS QUICKLY
YOUR TOUHOU UNIFORM - REALLY SUITS YOU.
EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT ANY-MORE.

IT WAS A GOOD IDEA THAT YOU WENT THERE INSTEAD OF SAKURAKA!
OH NO, THIS ISN'T GOOD...
I FEEL LIKE I'M ...GOING TO CRY
OH YEAH I
I ALMOST FORGOT! WE HAD PLANS TODAY! RIGHT, NANA?
HUH?
I'M GOING TO STOP BY MY FRIEND'S HOUSE NOW.
THANKS FOR LETTING ME USE YOUR UMBRELLA! ♥
HUH?
NO PROB! SEE YOU TOMORROW, HITOMI!
BAI BAI!!
HUH!?

...SURE.
NANA, CAN I GO UNDER YOUR UMBRELLA?
HUH?
WAVE WAVE
I THINK IT'D RAIN IF IT SAID 30%
BESIDES, THE PROBABILITY OF RAIN WAS ONLY 30%, SO I DIDN'T THINK IT REALLY WOULD
I FORGOT TO PUT IT BACK THE LAST TIME I USED IT.
WELL, I THOUGHT I HAD IT IN MY BAG, BUT
HOW COULD YOU FORGET YOUR UMBRELLA DURING THE RAINY SEASON?

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TRANSLATED BY: CIRRUS
SCANNED BY: TINY SNOWFAIRY

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TRANSLATED BY: CIRRUS
SCANNED BY: TINY SNOWFAIRY

NANA! THE SAKURAKA! SAILOR UNIFORM WOULD LOOK GREAT ON YOU!
THAT'S THE FIRST THING I WANT TO SEE WHEN YOU GET IN!
PROMISE?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THAT WAS...
"OH..
TH-THAT?.
YOU PROMISED ME YOU'D SHOW ME HOW YOU LOOKED WEARING THE SAKURAKA! SCHOOL UNIFORM!
IF YOU'D COME TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS ME
YOU WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO SEE IT EVERYDAY
I'LL CLOSE THE CURTAINS FOR YOU SEE?
BUT..
SWEEP
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU CAN CHANGE RIGHT HERE!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! OKAY, I'LL JUST SLIP IT ON. GIVE ME A MINUTE
EVERY-DAY

OKAY.
READY?
UH...
SURE.
I SHOULDN'T BE NERVOUS ABOUT THIS
HITOMI'S MY BEST FRIEND WE'VE TAKEN BATHS TOGETHER BEFORE
SO THERE'S
NO REASON TO BE NERVOUS
BUT... ALL THE TIMES...
WHEN I WOULD FILL THE EMPTY AIR WITH TALKING ...

I PRETENDED NOT TO CARE
tle
IT REALLY DOES LOOK GREAT ON YOU
I WANTED TO SEE IT FOR MYSELF
BUT BECAUSE I WAS PRETENDING NOT TO CARE
I WAS ONLY...
WHY...?
WHY ARE YOU SAYING THAT, HITOMI. PLEASE STOP FOOLING AROUND..
..HURTING HER
YOU SHOULD'VE COME TO SAKURAKA! WITH ME!
YOU'RE SO MEAN! YOU APPLIED FOR ANOTHER SCHOOL BEHIND MY BACK..!
EVEN THOUGH I'M THE ONE WHO WAS HURTING YOU
AND NOW... YOU PROBABLY HAVE A TON OF NEW FRIENDS...

DON'T MAKE ME SAY THESE THINGS!
AND YOU'RE... -sniff- YOU'RE DOING FINE WITHOUT ME...!
I'M SORRY, NANA, FOR ALL THE TROUBLE I'VE CAUSED
I REALLY DID WANT TO GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS YOU
I ALWAYS WANTED TO STAY YOUR FRIEND, BUT...
THE TRUTH IS...
I ALREADY KNEW BACK THEN
YOU KNEW THE TRUTH, TOO DIDN'T YOU, NANA?

YOUR TREMBLING FINGERS AND
THOSE WET EYES
WHAT ARE THEY TELLING ME?
WHAT WERE YOU HIDING?
I WAS DECEIVED BY JOKES AND SHALLOW WORDS.
I WAS SO
AFRAID ALL OF A SUDDEN
NO
NO, HITOMI! THIS IS TOO CLOSE!

COME ON! LET'S GO! EVERYONE'S WAITING!
STEP STEP
I'M SORRY!
HITOMI WAS SO KIND...
SHE ACTED AS THOUGH NONE OF THAT HAD HAPPENED AND KEPT BEING MY FRIEND
IS IT... TOO LATE?
YOU DON'T LOVE ME ANYMORE, DO YOU.
NA... NAN...?
WHY DID I ONLY GET IT NOW?
DO YOU... HATE ME?
WHAT WAS I SO AFRAID OF BEFORE?

I DIDN'T WANT TO LOSE YOU
EVEN IF YOU MAKE NEW FRIENDS THAT I DON'T KNOW
EVEN IF YOU CUT YOUR HAIR SHORT...
YOU'RE ALL I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT, EVERYDAY...
I WAS AFRAID OF CHANGE
AND TO NOT BE ABLE TO SEE YOU FOR SO LONG...
I COULD-N'T--
IT'S NOT ENOUGH JUST KISSING YOU.
I WANT TO TOUCH YOU MORE...
IS IT ALRIGHT IF I DO THIS...?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT...

I'M SORRY FOR BEING SO SELFISH.
YOU WERE ONLY AFRAID OF THE SAME THING AS ME.
BUT THIS ISN'T WHAT FRIENDS DO...
EVEN IF WE'RE NOT FRIENDS
IT'S ALRIGHT.
OH! THAT'S MINE!
WHOSE CELL-PHONE IS RINGING?
♪
♪
♪

SHOW US! SHOW US!
COME ON! KNOCK IT OFF!
ha
ha
YOU'RE LYING! SEE? YOU'RE BLUSHING!
N-NO! THAT'S NOT IT! IT'S UH...
GOSSIP
since when?!
WOW! WHO IS IT? YOUR BOYFRIEND!?
You said you didn't have one!
I'M NOT AFRAID ANY-MORE.
EVERY-THING'S GOING TO BE ALRIGHT
BEFORE I STARTED GETTING TONS OF MESSAGES AND PHOTOS THROUGH MY CELL-PHONE EVERYDAY..
12:30
Here's my homework!!
uniform
YOU HOU!
SAVE
OK
PAUSE
OUR SUMMER TOGETHER BEGAN
Our basket-ball ace sweats!
Summer vacation is tough!
EVEN IF WE'RE NOT FRIENDS
END

EVERY SUMMER VACATION IS THE SAME-
THE SUN-FLOWERS TUCKED INTO THE NOOKS OF THE CAMPUS,
THE MUSIC OF THE CICADAS,
THE CLASS OF STUDENTS, QUITE A BIT SMALLER THAN USUAL.
NO MATTER HOW MANY YEARS PASS, THIS SCENERY NEVER CHANGES
I AM THE SAME WAY; I WATCH THE SCENE PLAY OUT, MY OWN FORM NEVER CHANGING WITH AGE
AS TO WHY I REMAIN UNCHANGING...
WELL, YOU COULD SAY I'M A STAPLE OF SUMMER...

EMPTY SCHOOL BUILDINGS TEND TO MAKE PEOPLE FEEL A LITTLE BIT LONELY.
BUT I'M NEVER LONELY.
SINCE I'M A GHOST.
Mm-AAHH
BECAUSE YOU COME EVERY DAY.
INFIRMARY
THE SUMMER CLOSEST TO HEAVEN.
It will chill your spine and warm your heart.
LOVELY☆HORROR 20P
森永みるく
Milk Morinaga

SO IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US HERE
YOU RARELY HAVE TO TREAT PEOPLE IN THE SUMMER,
IT LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING IS GOING ON...
BUT I HAVE THE FEELING THAT SOMEONE IS GOING TO COME TODAY.
THEY'RE BEATING US BY FOUR POINTS. I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...!
TOUHOU HAS A STRONGER TEAM THAN I EXPECTED
WE CAN'T LOSE IN OUR OWN INVITATIONAL MATCH...
IT'LL BE OKAY! WE'LL BE...
...OW...!
THROB!
TWEET TWEET

NATSUKA?! YOU OKAY?!
GEEZ...
THIS IS THE PITS!
Possibly
RATTLE
OH, WERE YOU INJURED DURING THE GAME?
IS IT YOUR ANKLE? DID YOU SPRAIN IT?
RATTLE
—WHY ARE YOU HERE— DURING SUMMER BREAK?
REALLY—? OKAY, THEN PLEASE WAIT JUST A MOMENT
H—
ANNOYED
I TOLD YOU, I'M FINE! WE ALWAYS TREAT INJURIES LIKE THIS OURSELVES!
BUT YOUR ANKLE LOOKS QUITE SWOLLE—
I'M FINE I JUST CAME TO PICK UP SOME COMPRESSES, SINCE WE'RE ALL OUT
OH, THERE ARE STUDENTS HERE DURING BREAKS DOING CLUB ACTIVITIES, YOU KNOW? COULD YOU SHOW ME YOUR LEG?

DIZZY
SHIVER
...?
IT'S COLD! THE AIR CONDITIONING IN HERE IS A LITTLE TOO GOOD...
PASS THROUGH
PISSED OFF
HOW DARE YOU TALK TO HER LIKE THAT ?!!
POW
PASS THROUGH
SLIP...
HUH ?!
THUD
YOU KNOW, SHE'S IN HERE EVERY DAY FOR YOUR SAKE...!
KIDS THESE DAYS ...!!
...
...HUH...?
TH-... THIS IS...
COULD IT BE THAT..
THROB!
OW...!!

EXTERNAL MEDICINE
IT WAS THE SAME BACK WHEN I WAS A STUDENT HERE. THE STUDENTS WHO WERE ALWAYS GOING TO THE INFIRMARY WERE...
IT IS TRUE THAT THE GIRLS ON THE SPORTS TEAMS SELDOM COME HERE.
I— I'M POSSESSING HER...?!
HUH?!
EHE.
O-...
OW
THROB THROB
A— are you all right?
HUH?
AHAHA IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE WALKED WITH A LIVING PERSON'S LEGS...
I'M PERFECTLY F—
YEAH!
STAND!
Oh! You fell flat on your face.
FALL
dangle
dangle
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? CAN YOU WALK?

. I'M HAPPY
...TO BE ABLE TO TALK WITH YOU AGAIN.
—?
I'M SORRY, HAVE YOU COME HERE BEFORE...?
IT'S LIKE
WE'VE RETURNED TO THAT TIME...
YES, YES, MY NAME AND CLASS, RIGHT? I'LL WRITE THEM DOWN!!
I'M SORRY, BUT... THE STUDENTS WHO VISIT HERE NEED TO.
INFIRMARY REGISTER
SAY, LET'S GO OUTSIDE!
KOMATSU ER, SENSEI!*
*TEACHER ALSO USED FOR THE SCHOOL NURSE
HUH?
Outside...? But what about your leg?!
IT'S HO——T !!
OOH~! I'M SWEATING!
IT-... IT IS...
pant pant
HOT OUTSIDE... UM... Y-YOUR LEG... IS IT ALL RIGHT...?

.. HAHA!
HUH?
PANT
IT'S BECAUSE YOU SPEND EVERY DAY IN THE AIR-CONDITIONED INFIRMARY--!
UM. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SENSEI?
PANT
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
BUT ON THE OTHER HAND IF THERE WAS A STUDENT WHO GOT SICKER BECAUSE OF THE TEMPERATURE DIFFERENCE THAT WOULD BE TERRIBLE
I DIDN'T THINK IT OUT WELL ENOUGH...
PANT...
IT'S NOT THAT COLD IN THERE... BUT YOU'RE RIGHT...
I DO KEEP THE AIR CONDITIONING ON IN THERE IN CASE STUDENTS COME IN WITH HEAT-STROKE...
YOU REALLY HAVE BECOME A SCHOOL NURSE...
OH, KOMATSU-SENSEI. A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU...
COME ON BACK, IDE, EVERYONE'S WAITING FOR YOU.
WELL, IT'S A LIGHT SPRAIN, BUT I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST IF SHE SAT PRACTICE OUT FOR THE TIME BEING...
WHAAT?!
OH! IDE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU, SINCE YOU DIDN'T COME BACK! YOUR LEG OK?!
THERE SHE IS!
..?

—WHAT A STRANGE GIRL...
NO~~! I'VE BARELY HAD ANY TIME TO SPEND WITH HER AT ALL~~!
Help me someone~!
What's wrong with this kid?
Don't tell me strange things like that!
Wa~~~~~!!
CARTED OFF
THE NEXT DAY
CHI—RP
CHI—RP
CHI—RP
CHI—RP
RAT TLE
SENSEI!!
LET'S PLAY!!
I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I'LL BE IN THIS GIRL'S BODY, BUT I'LL BE COMING HERE EVERY DAY! ☆
SO I CAME TO SPEND TIME WITH YOU ♡
BUT YOU SAID THAT I SHOULD SIT OUT PRACTICE BECAUSE OF MY ANKLE!
...IDE-SAN... WAS IT? DON'T YOU HAVE PRACTICE TODAY...?

IF THAT HAPPENS... I'LL BE ABLE TO TELL YOU THE THINGS THAT I WASN'T ABLE TO BEFORE...
...IT COULD BE... THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO STAY THIS WAY FOREVER...
YOU TURNED DOWN THE AIR CONDITIONING, HUH?
BUT IT FEELS PERFECT, COMING IN HERE FROM OUTSIDE! YEAH! ♡
wander
OH, SO YOU FINISHED READING THAT. WAS IT INTERESTING?
wander
HUH?
WHAT? DID I SAY SOMETHING FUNNY?
HE HE HE HE
HUH?
NO, I WAS JUST THINKING...
THAT YOU'RE EXACTLY LIKE I USED TO BE
OH... I DIDN'T KNOW THAT...
HUH...?
OH, I'M AN ALUMNA OF THIS SCHOOL, ALTHOUGH I APPLIED TO A DIFFERENT COLLEGE
...WAY BACK WHEN, I ONLY EVER CAME HERE TO HANG OUT AND HAVE FUN, TOO

I WENT TO A COLLEGE WHERE I COULD GET CREDIT THAT WOULD COUNT TOWARD'S A MEDICAL DEGREE
I NEVER IMAGINED THAT I'D END UP WORKING AT MY ALMA MATER.
BECAUSE I... ONLY MADE IT... PARTWAY THROUGH SCHOOL HERE...
WHEN I CAME TO .. I WAS HERE.
I WAS HAPPY.. BECAUSE I'D BE ABLE TO SEE YOU AGAIN,
BE WITH YOU AGAIN,
JUST LIKE BEFORE... THAT TIME I SPENT WITH YOU WAS THE GREATEST TIME OF MY LIFE
I KNOW I SEE THIS PLACE EVERY DAY.
BUT THIS PLACE HAS A FEW REGULARS TOO.
HEALTHY GIRLS LIKE YOU ONLY NEED TO VISIT THIS PLACE WHEN YOU GET INJURED,

STUDENTS WHO ARE TRULY ILL AND NEED TO COME HERE TO REST...
THAT'S RIGHT...
AND THOSE WHO CAN'T FIT IN IN THEIR CLASSES...
THIS PLACE WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME BACK THEN.
I SPENT MOST OF MY BREAKS AND LUNCH HOURS HERE
ACCOMPANIED BY THE KIND NURSE, AND THE SOFT ATMOSPHERE.
I HAD A FRIEND I SAW ONLY WHEN I WAS HERE.
THAT WAS DURING MY FIRST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL— COME TO THINK OF IT,
INFIRMARY REGISTER 2004 No.2
I WONDER IF HER HEALTH EVER IMPROVED AFTER SHE TRANSFERRED?
...?
HEY, SENSEI!
HUH?!
YOU PACKED A LUNCH TODAY AS USUAL, RIGHT?
I BOUGHT BREAD FOR LUNCH ALREADY. SO LET'S GO EAT OUTSIDE TOGETHER!

YOU'RE ALWAYS COOPED UP IN THE INFIRMARY. AREN'T YOU SICK OF IT YET? YOU HAVE TO GO OUT AND GET SOME FRESH AIR ONCE IN A WHILE!
THAT'S RIGHT...
I DID THIS WITH HER TOO, JUST ONCE—...
SEE, THERE'S NOBODY HERE, KOMATSU-SAN!
LOOKS LIKE NOBODY ELSE WANTS TO BE UP ON THE ROOF IN THIS HEAT!
THIS IS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE THAT I'VE EATEN LUNCH SOMEWHERE BESIDES THE INFIRMARY.
SAME HERE—!
SHE HAD SHORT LIMBS AND PALE SKIN,
...BUT WILL YOU BE ALL RIGHT? YOUR HEALTH, I MEAN?
I'M FINE, I'M FINE! I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TRY EATING UP HERE, JUST ONCE —
IT FEELS GOOD TO SWEAT ONCE IN A WHILE!
BUT SHE SMILED OFTEN.

Oh
YOU'RE RIGHT, IT DOES SOUND ROUGH...
AND THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE ME, WHO COLLAPSE AT SCHOOL...
Ehehe...
HMMM. BUT IT SEEMS LIKE IT MUST BE ROUGH BEING A SCHOOL NURSE. THEY ALMOST ACT AS COUNSELORS TO THE STUDENTS, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY..
THEY HAVE TO DEAL WITH STUDENTS LIKE ME TOO...
OH! THEN HOW ABOUT YOU BECOME A SCHOOL NURSE SOMEDAY? YOU'RE SMART, FOR STARTERS..
Ahaha...
IT'S SO RELAXING THERE. I WANT TO STAY THERE FOREVER, EVEN AFTER I'VE GROWN UP~
BUT I THINK I PREFER THE INFIRMARY...
...OH... THAT'S REALLY NICE.
I... DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS IN MY CLASS, SO...
Y-... YOU COULD SAY, THAT I COME TO SCHOOL BECAUSE THERE'S SOME-ONE HERE I WANT TO SEE...
HUH?
Sorry to always ask you to look after my work...
, NAH, IT'S NOTHING, REALLY. I DON'T COME TO SCHOOL TO STUDY, YOU KNOW...
NO WAY! YOU'RE GREAT!
EVEN THOUGH YOUR BODY'S WEAK, YOU REALLY WORK HARD AT YOUR STUDIES SO THAT YOU DON'T FALL BEHIND, AND YOU COME TO SCHOOL EVERYDAY...
WHAT?!
TH-
THEN...
WHEN THE CLASSES GET SWITCHED AROUND NEXT YEAR, I'LL BE IN THE SAME CLASS AS YOU!
HUH ?
BUT... THERE ARE EIGHT CLASSES, THERE'S NO WAY TO BE SURE THAT WE'LL BE IN THE SAME ONE...
WE WILL! I BET! I BET-...
UM..

BLUSH
THROUGH THE POWER OF LOVE♪
♪ TH-
clench
IT REALLY IS HOT UP HERE ON THE ROOF~, SENSEI.
BUT IT FEELS GOOD TO SWEAT ONCE IN A WHILE!
BUT YOU KNOW... BEING A SCHOOL NURSE REALLY WOULD SUIT YOU, KOMATSU-SAN.
BECAUSE I'M SURE THAT YOU...
WOULD UNDERSTAND THE FEELINGS OF THE STUDENTS WHO'D COME TO THE INFIRMARY.
BEFORE WE SWITCHED CLASSES,
SHE TRANSFERRED

I WISH THAT WE'D TALKED MORE MUCH MORE
THAT WE'D MAYBE SEEN EACH OTHER OUTSIDE THE INFIRMARY.
...YOU KNOW, I REALLY LOVE MY JOB.
YEAH, I FIGURED. NONE OF THE OTHER TEACHERS COME IN EVERY DAY DURING SUMMER VACATION.
IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BETTER IF NOT SO MANY STUDENTS HAD TO GO TO THE INFIRMARY
BUT A LOT OF THEM DO... BECAUSE OF ILLNESS OR INJURY... OR FOR SOME OTHER REASON.
I WAS NEVER GOOD AT CONVERSING WITH PEOPLE,
BUT I LISTEN TO THE STUDENTS, AND A LOT OF THEM TELL ME THINGS...
IT'S A LITTLE STRANGE... BUT...
I FEEL LIKE I COULD LISTEN...
TO YOUR STORY, TOO...
KATOU-SAN...

...I...
SOME-THING TO SAY... TO KOMATSU-SAN.
WELL... ALL THIS TIME— I...?
I THOUGHT THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE SOME-THING THAT YOU WANTED TO SAY TO ME.
YEAH...
WELL, I... I...
I ENJOYED TALKING WITH YOU IN THE INFIRMARY EVERY DAY
I WANTED TO STUDY IN THE SAME CLASSROOM AS YOU
AND TO LAUGH WITH YOU TOO, BUT...
BUT I WAS ABLE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, SO...
SO...
Facing

I WAS HAPPY TO SEE YOU WERE DOING WELL, KOMATSU-SAN.
I WAS HAPPY TO SEE THAT YOU'D BECOME A WONDERFUL SCHOOL NURSE LIKE I'D EXPECTED
...I'M SO HAPPY.
AND...
I'M SORRY THAT WE DIDN'T END UP IN THE SAME CLASS.
I CAN TELL YOU.
YOU WERE-

MM-MM
CHU
OH...? SENSEI...?
ARE YOU ALRIGHT? CAN YOU MAKE IT BACK TO THE INFIRMARY, IDE-SAN?
HUH...? WHY AM I ON THE ROOF...?
YOU WERE THE PERSON I LOVED MOST IN THE WORLD.

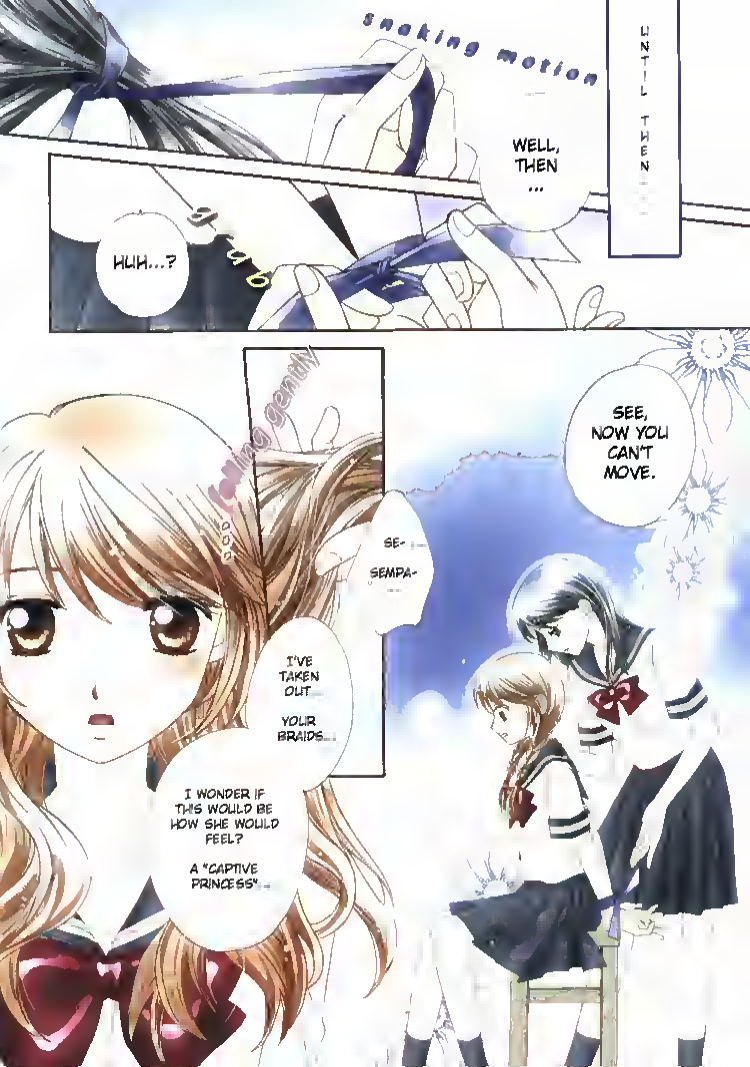
SO YOU SEE... I HAVE NO MEMORY AT ALL..
FROM THE TIME I CAME HERE AFTER THE GAME TO THE TIME I WAS ON THE ROOF YESTERDAY
drip
drip
drip
NOW... THEN
And then,
THE NEXT DAY.
Sigh.
I DON'T KNOW IF I'D DESCRIBE IT AS MY HEART RACING OR AS TIGHTNESS IN MY CHEST...
HUH?
WHAT?! YOUR PULSE?! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
MY LEG ISN'T REALLY THE PROBLEM ANYMORE... MY PULSE IS RACING NOW...
the throbbing of weight gone to your head
What's wrong?
WELL...
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TELL HER SHE WAS BEING POSSESSED
I- IDE-SAN... IS YOUR LEG ALL RIGHT NOW?
I even dreamed about kissing you
I... I...
WHEN I THINK ABOUT YOU NOW, SENSEI...
BLUSH
Looking
UP UNTIL NOW... I'D ALWAYS JUST THOUGHT OF TEACHERS AS ANNOYING, BUT
I-... LOVESICK-NESS?!
C-... CALM DOWN-, IDE-SAN!
Or rather, the opposite, if anything!
drip drip
How will I manage to control her about this?!
BECOME A GREAT TEACHER, OKAY? ♡
...SENSEI!!
COULD IT BE... THAT THIS IS... THAT THIS IS...!!

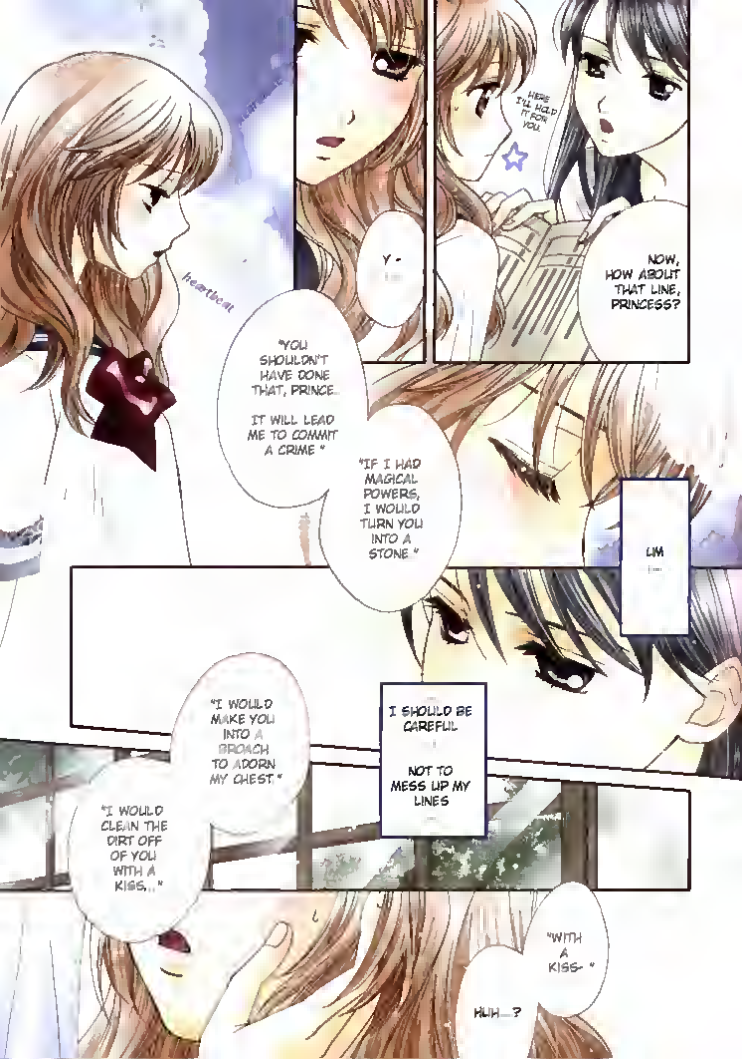
THE SUMMER CLOSEST TO HEAVEN

a Lililicious project
http://www.lililicious.net
#lililicious@irc.rizon.net

scans procured by: Sailor Avalon
translated by: Sailor Avalon
edited by: Elae
QC'ed by: SpaceTart, ElsewhereCW, & Sailor Avalon

UNTIL THEN, I WAS COMPLETELY HAPPY.
LIKE A PRINCESS.
OKAY, LET'S CONTINUE WITH THE THIRD ACT. FROM THE CAPTIVE PRINCESS'S LINE.
Y - ... YES!
LIM
~NOTE - THE BOOK'S TITLE IS "THE KNIFE BIRD AND THE BEAUTIFUL STONE" ~
I WAS CHOSEN AS THE LEAD FOR OUR PERFORMANCE FOR THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL.
IT WAS THE ROLE OF THE PRINCESS, SOMETHING THAT EVERY GIRL HAS DREAMT OF AT LEAST ONCE
AH... LIM, I DON'T REALLY GET... WHAT THE CAPTIVE PRINCESS SHOULD BE LIKE...
WHAT'S WRONG? ABE-SAN?
I'M PLAYING OPPOSITE A SEMPAI WHO IS POPULAR AND COOL
WE STAYED AFTER SCHOOL... TO READ THROUGH OUR LINES TOGETHER.
HMM! I SEE.
NOTE - SEMPAI MEANS UPPERCLASSMAN~


UNTIL THEN...
shaking motion
WELL, THEN ...
grab
HUH...?
SEE, NOW YOU CAN'T MOVE.
SE-
SEMPA-
touching gently
I'VE TAKEN OUT YOUR BRAIDS...
I WONDER IF THIS WOULD BE HOW SHE WOULD FEEL?
A "CAPTIVE PRINCESS"...


HERE, I'LL HELP IT RUN YOU.
NOW, HOW ABOUT THAT LINE, PRINCESS?
Y-
heartbeat
"YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT, PRINCE.. IT WILL LEAD ME TO COMMIT A CRIME."
"IF I HAD MAGICAL POWERS, I WOULD TURN YOU INTO A STONE."
UM
I SHOULD BE CAREFUL NOT TO MESS UP MY LINES
"I WOULD MAKE YOU INTO A BROACH TO ADORN MY CHEST."
"I WOULD CLEAN THE DIRT OFF OF YOU WITH A KISS.."
"WITH A KISS-"
HUH...?

キスと恋と王子様

A Kiss, Love, and a Prince

森永みるく
Morinaga Milk

AND KISSED HER...?!
RUSTLE
Y- YOU TIED HER HANDS BEHIND HER BACK...
?
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE GETTING MAD...
THERE'S A KISS BETWEEN THE PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS IN THE SCRIPT ISN'T THERE?
ARE YOU SOME KIND OF PERVERT?!!
YOU IDIOT!
STUPID!!
DOPE!!
REALLY
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE DOING THIS TO GET PEOPLE TO COME WATCH...
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE HAVE TO HAVE THIS IDIOT PLAYING THE LEAD...
Drama Club
Meeting in Progress!!
Only third years allowed.
MOST PEOPLE ARE HURT BY BEING CALLED "STUPID" AND "IDIOT" SO MANY TIMES
IT'S ALL RIGHT TO SAY IT TO SOMEONE WHO REALLY IS STUPID!!
WHAT AM I SAYING. YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO DO IT ANYWAY!! IDIOT!!
STUPID!! THAT'S IN THE LAST SCENE...
GAH!
OH, IT REALLY IS AT THE END
SIGH

AHH! SHE'S SO WONDERFUL!
TACHIBANA-SEMPAI! ♥ GOOD DAY!
AH!
SIGH
GO-GOOD DAY
SQUEE
SQUEE
WE HAVE TO GO THROUGH SO MUCH JUST TO HIDE THE STAR ACTOR'S TRUE CHARACTER
She's underhanded and cool
SUCH AN IDIOT ...
THE UNDER-CLASSMEN DON'T KNOW THAT THEIR "BELOVED ♥ TACHIBANA-SEMPAI" IS...
SIGH
IF WE'D LET YOU DO THAT, THE WHOLE SCHOOL WOULD HAVE TURNED AGAINST US. THERE'S NO WAY WE COULD HAVE ALLOWED IT!!
AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN MENTION WANTING TO DO IT ANYWAY!
...BUT... THAT'S...
I WANTED TO BE "THE MEAN WITCH WHO TRIES TO SEPARATE THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS"
...I DIDN'T WANT TO DO THE ROLE OF THE PRINCE ANYWAY
CLOSE
HMPH!
IT'S BECAUSE... I'M PLAYING OPPOSITE
...
AND -
WHAT?
WELL WHAT DID ABE-SAN DO AFTER-WARDS?
SHE HASN'T COME TO THE DRAMA CLUB IN THREE DAYS, RIGHT?
UH UM...

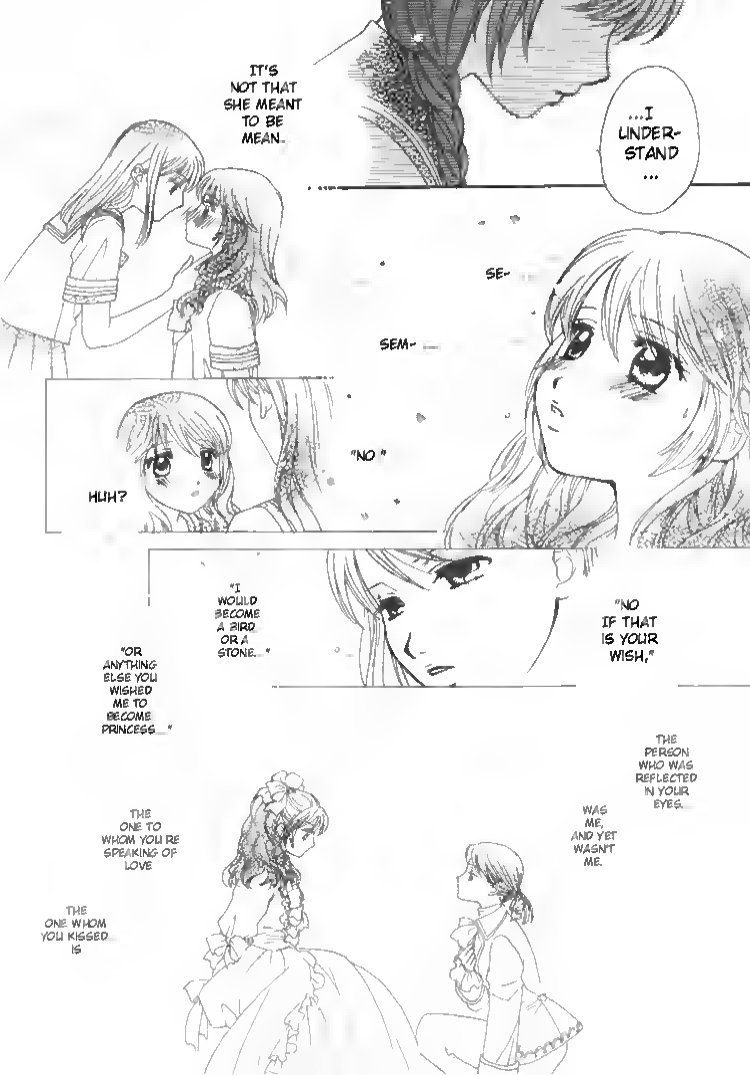
...
APOLOGIZE ...TO HER RIGHT AWAY!
SH- SHE STARTED CRYING AND LEFT...
RUSHING
EUCHOU!
AHH!
-NOTE- BUCHOU MEANS CLUB PRESIDENT IN THIS CASE-
WELL THEN, EVERYONE, GOOD DAY...
GOOD DAY!
HUH? ...OH... YEAH... THEN WE SHOULD GO HOME NOW
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
UM... HOMEROOM IS OVER.
SLUGGISH
ABE-CHAN?
...ABE-CHAN?
HEY, SAY, ARE YOU SKIPPING DRAMA CLUB AGAIN TODAY?
IS IT OKAY FOR YOU TO SKIP PRACTICE? AREN'T YOU THE LEAD IN THE PLAY?

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN...?
NANA-CHAN... HAVE YOU EVER KISSED SOMEONE?
WHAT?!
WH-WHY?!
TRY TO IMAGINE YOURSELF KISSING HIM...
AND IF YOU DON'T THINK IT'S BAD, YOU MIGHT LIKE HIM...
THE KAFE BIRD AND THE BEAUTIFUL STONE
I'VE FANTASIZED ABOUT KISSING A LOT. KISSING IDOLS...OR BOYS THAT I THOUGHT WERE COOL
THAT WAS HOW I DREAMED IT WOULD BE
I THOUGHT MY FIRST KISS WOULD BE... WITH A WONDERFUL BOYFRIEND...
EVEN A NORMAL BOY... WOULD SEEM LIKE A PRINCE TO ME...

A WONDERFUL
PRINCE
...
...tears welling up
UH...
UM, ABE-CHAN...
OH, SORRY!
IT'S NOTHING! NOW LET'S GET GO-
UH...
YOUR SEMPAI FROM THE DRAMA CLUB CAME TO GET YOU
WE WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY!
!!
WHY DO I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE ...
SIGH
ROLLING OVER
OR...

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
SHE WAS PRETTY ...
THE AFTERNOON SUNLIGHT SHONE THROUGH HER HAIR,
MAKING IT SPARKLE
HER LONG EYELASHES MADE A SHADOW ON HER CHEEK THAT TREMBLED SLIGHTLY
BUT...
WHEN I UNTIED THE RIBBON, SHE RAN OFF, AND IT WAS LIKE SHE WAS FLYING AWAY
I SHOULDN'T HAVE UNTIED THE RIBBON
DISAPPOINTMENT
HIS NO IMAGINATION

ABE-SAN... WOULD YOU CONSIDER COMING TO REHEARSAL AGAIN?
WE HEARD WHAT HAPPENED...
RUSTLE
WHERE DID SHE RUN OFF TO...
I'M SORRY...
I ASKED TACHIBANA TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU, BUT...
!
WE KNOW HOW YOU MUST FEEL BUT...
TACHIBANA DIDN'T DO IT TO BE MEAN, RIGHT?
YES, I DON'T THINK THAT SHE HARBORS ANY ILL WILL TOWARDS YOU...
PREPARE
YOU SEE, THE TRUTH IS SHE'S A LITTLE STRANGE...
A- ARE THEY BULLYING HER?
YOU WERE REHEARSING YOUR LINES, RIGHT?
SHE PROBABLY... JUST GOT SO INTO CHARACTER THAT...
SUSPENSE SUSPENSE
TWITCH


IT'S NOT THAT SHE MEANT TO BE MEAN.
...I UNDER-STAND ...
SE-
SEM-
"NO."
HUH?
"I WOULD BECOME A BIRD OR A STONE..."
"NO IF THAT IS YOUR WISH."
"OR ANYTHING ELSE YOU WISHED ME TO BECOME, PRINCESS..."
THE PERSON WHO WAS REFLECTED IN YOUR EYES...
WAS ME, AND YET WASN'T ME.
THE ONE TO WHOM YOU'RE SPEAKING OF LOVE
THE ONE WHOM YOU KISSED IS

I WANTED YOU TO LOOK AT ME...
EVEN SO, IT WAS MY FIRST KISS...
PRINCESS?
OH! I'M SORRY ABE-SAN! WE'RE NOT TRYING TO BULLY YOU INTO IT. WE JUST...
THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL IS COMING UP SOON... IF YOU REALLY CAN'T DO THE ROLE THEN...
WE HAVE TO FIND SOMEONE ELSE TO DO IT RIGHT AWAY
I- ...
SOMEONE OTHER THAN ME PLAYING OPPOSITE SEMPAI...

TA-TACHIBANA?!
HUH?
SEMPAI?!
RUSTLE
I DON'T WANT THAT!!!
PUSHING THROUGH IN A SINGLE BLOW!!!
AH!...
RUNNING
AWAY
TACHI-
SHE'S RUNNING THAT'S UNUSUAL!
AH!
OOH! TACHIBANA SAN!
I... CAN'T BR-
SE-SEMPAI
WAI-
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT

...SEMPAI ...?
.....
IF I APOLOGIZE... WILL YOU KEEP THE ROLE...?
T-THAT'S... YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLO-GIZE
THEN WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO FOR YOU TO FORGIVE ME?
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO FOR YOU TO COME BACK?
.....
DOES IT REALLY MATTER... WHO PLAYS THE PRINCESS?
WHY DOES SHE CARE ABOUT IT THAT MUCH?
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT SOMEONE ELSE TO DO IT

WHY...
I... ONLY TOOK ON THIS ROLE BECAUSE YOU WERE GOING TO PLAY THE PRINCESS.
SIGH
A GIRL I DON'T LIKE.
I CAN'T KISS...
WHAT?
...I SEE... I...
OH...?

I LIKE YOU, NARUMI-CHAN.
OH... WE WEREN'T TALKING ABOUT THAT... UM...
SO, ABOUT THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL...
WHAT?!
I- I'LL APOLOGIZE!! UM...
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?! DID I SAY SOMETHING BAD?!
SEMPAI...
GEEZ...
THIS ISN'T FAIR.
THE PRINCE I'VE WAITED FOR FOR SO LONG IS...
IF YOU DO...
SAY IT ONE MORE TIME...

I'LL FORGIVE YOU.
SUCH A GOOD-FOR-NOTHING OF A PRINCE
HITOMI!
HURRY! OVER HERE!!
THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE HERE, SEMPAI
SEMPAI?
THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE HERE! THE SAKURAKAI DRAMA CLUB IS REALLY POPULAR, ISN'T IT?
HEY, ISN'T IT GREAT? MY FRIEND IS PLAYING THE LEAD!
BLAH
Sakurakai
Waiting Room

AFTER ALL THAT'S HAPPENED...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING
WELL, WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT, A KISS IS SOMETHING THAT PEOPLE WHO ARE GOING OUT DO, RIGHT?
LIKE THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS...
...
YES?
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT, AND I SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO YOU FOR WHAT I DID.
REALLY SHOULD...
...
...YOU KNOW...
WHAT'S WRONG?
IS THERE A PROBLEM?
YES?
GO OUT.
sparkle
IT'S A GOOD IDEA!!
SO! WE SHOULD...
NOTHING...
IT'S JUST MY HEART IS RACING AND I'M A LITTLE DIZZY...
HEARTBEAT
HEARTBEAT
I'M THE PRINCESS TODAY
BUT IF I CAN'T STOP CRYING, THE PLAY WILL BE RUINED.
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHAT'S WRONG?
NARUMI-CHAN?

BECAUSE
MOUTH OPEN
MOUTH CLOSE
HMM?
YOUR HEART IS REALLY RACING.
grope
WITH A PRINCE LIKE THIS
PETITE...
YOUR CHEST IS SO TINY AND CUTE
*NOTE * PETITE MEANS SMALL IN FRENCH*
CROWD ROAR
I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU, BUT TRY TO DO YOUR BEST AGE GAIN
DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE PERFORMANCE?!
DO YOU HAVE YOUR LINES MEMORIZED?!
Waiting Room
CROWD ROAR
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHERE ARE YOU PUTTING YOUR HANDS?!
SEMPAI!!
A PRINCESS CAN'T CRY
A Kiss, Love, and a Skin c
END

~A Kiss, Love and a Prince

Scan Provided: Ying Snowfairy
Translator: Sailor Avalon
Editor: Sailor-Lunafan
Quality Check: Sandra, Eva3384
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A Lililicious Project
http://lililicious.gb.net
lililicious @ inca-kon.net

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT SOMEONE HAD REFUSED MY OUT-STRETCHED HAND
WITH SUCH WORDS
LEAVE ME ALONE.
MIND YOUR OWN BUSI-NESS.
AT THAT TIME, I WAS PRETTY HURT, AND I THOUGHT TO MY-SELF
THAT I'D TRY NOT TO ASSO-CIATE WITH ANY "OUTSIDE" STUDENTS (STUDENTS WHO TOOK AN EXAM TO ENTER THE SCHOOL'S HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION") AGAIN

"THIS IS LIKELY AN "ESCALATOR" SCHOOL, IN WHICH STUDENTS ADVANCE DIRECTLY FROM JUNIOR HIGH TO HIGH SCHOOL WITHOUT HAVING TO TAKE AN EXAM.

IT WASN'T LIKE WE OPENLY AVOIDED THEM,
BUT THERE WERE A LOT OF GIRLS AMONG THEM WHO HAD BOY-FRIENDS AT OTHER SCHOOLS
WE FELT LIKE WE COULDN'T FOLLOW THEIR CON-VERSATIONS

SO WE'VE BEEN JUST CLASSMATES
EVEN NOW, IN OUR THIRD YEAR, THINGS ARE THE SAME.
BUT
HER NECK, WHICH I CAN'T HELP STEALING GLANCES AT DURING CLASS,

THIRD IN THE SERIES!
THE STORY THIS TIME IS A SLIGHTLY BITTER TALE OF A DRAMA CLUB MEMBER'S HEARTBREAK.
This Love From I Can't Remember When.
森永みるく
Milk Morinaga
IS ALWAYS SO WHITE IT'S NEARLY TRANSPARENT.
IT'S VERY BEAUTIFUL

!
OUCH!
WHAT?! YOU ALL RIGHT?! DID YOU PRICK YOUR FINGER, CHISATO?!
YOU'RE BLEEDING! YOU SHOULD GO TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE!
DRAMA CLUB FALL PU
BUT WE HAVE TO HANG THE POSTERS...
WE'LL DO THE REST, SEMPAI.*
YEAH, YOU GO ON
*UPPERCLASSMAN
REALLY?
SORRY...
KNOCK KNOCK
EXCUSE ME...

SWIVEL
SENSEI?* OH...?
*TEACHER. SCHOOL NURSES ARE ADDRESSED WITH THIS TITLE IN JAPAN.
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER? ARE YOU HURT?
OH, SENSEI, I...
SSSHK
BLUSH
MI-...
MIZUKI-SAN?!
PRICKED MY FINGER...
OH I'M SORRY I THOUGHT YOU WERE SENSEI.
YEAH... APPARENTLY MY VOICE IS SIMILAR TO HERS
I hear that all the time.
WHAT IS IT? YOUR FINGER?
BLUSH

SUZUKI-SAN, YOU'RE REALLY A SPOILED, DELICATE GIRL, AREN'T YOU?
HUH?
...THAT'S IT?
YES I PRICKED IT... WITH A THUMB-TACK...
chip
BLUSH
!
slide
STARTLE
MIZU-
?

...!
There, there
IT SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT NOW, HMM?
STARTLE
OH, WHAT'S GOING ON?
STARTLE
ARE YOU ALL SET, MIZUKI-SAN?
YES. LUNCH IS ALMOST OVER, SO I'LL BE GOING BACK TO THE CLASSROOM.

I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER ?
RUSH
RUSH!
RUSH
You all right?
HUH ?!
YOU'RE .
BOW
!-!- PLEASE EXCUSE ME!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
THAT- THAT-..
I FIRST-

I FIRST STARTED HAVING THE DREAMS
THAT NIGHT.
IN THE DREAMS, SHE AND I WERE FRIENDS.
WE'D DO THINGS TOGETHER LIKE EATING LUNCH— OR GOING SHOPPING.
BUT
ON THE NAPE OF HER NECK—

BEEP BEEP BEEP
...I'M SO STUPID...
COUGH
COUGH!
HUH...? THAT'S NOT TRUE.
YOU OKAY? COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN LOOKING SO GOOD LATELY
Let me see
BUT HAVEN'T YOU BEEN SPACING OUT ALL THE TIME LATELY?
You'll get infected!
YEAH... MAYBE?
YOU HAVE A COLD, CHISATO?
COUGH
RATTLE
IT'S

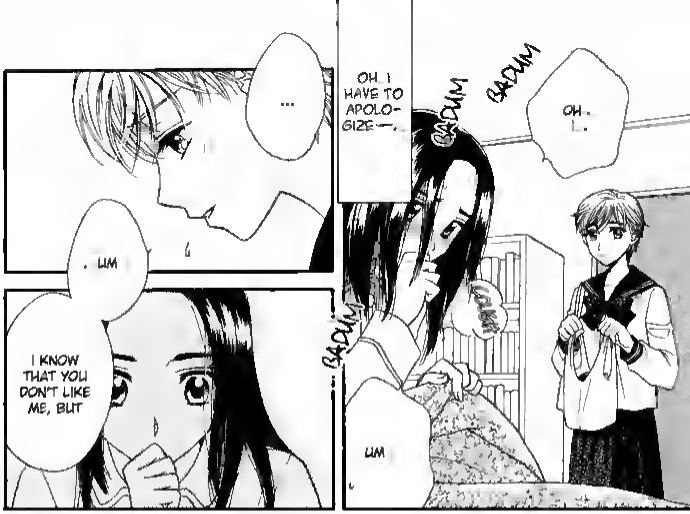
OH, MIZUKI, ARE YOU FEELING BETTER NOW?
YEAH... I'M STILL JUST A LITTLE ANEMIC.
AGAAAIN? YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH BLOOD BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT EATING MEAT. —
AHAHA
DON'T YOU MEAN IRON?
GO EAT SOME PACHINKO* BALLS
Ahaha
No way!
*PACHINKO IS A GAMBLING GAME THAT'S SIMILAR TO PINBALL
...THAT I FEEL STUPID FOR GETTING FLUSTERED OVER SOMETHING LIKE THAT —
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO LOOK HER IN THE EYE EVER SINCE...
CLENCH
WHAT'S THAT?
OH, YEAH. WHO'S ON DUTY TODAY...?
ON DUTY: SHIKAYAMA SUZUKI
I'M SURE
THAT SHE DOESN'T THINK ANYTHING OF IT, THOUGH. —
SUZUKI-SAN

HERE
OH, THANKS
STARTLE
THESE ARE THE PRINTOUTS FOR THE NEXT CLASS TEACHER
WANTS THEM DISTRIBUTED
OH!
RUSTLE
S-
SORR-
COUGH COUGH
OH, NO. HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING, CHISATOOO?
SHOCK
OH, NO!
RATTLE
RATTLE

I REALLY AM... AN IDIOT...
SUZUKI-SAN, DO YOU HAVE A COLD?
OR A FEVER...?
ASUKA
SMACK!
OH...
SORRY...
...OH...
— THE NEXT DAY, I THOUGHT TO MYSELF, FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, THAT I DIDN'T WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL.

I REALLY STAYED HOME FROM SCHOOL...
I WONDER IF YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GO TO SCHOOL TOMORROW...?
BUT REST A BIT MORE FOR NOW.
37.2
IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR FEVER HAS GONE DOWN A LITTLE.
...
COUGH
I DON'T WANT TO SLEEP I'LL— HAVE ANOTHER STUPID DREAM.
BUT I CAN TALK TO HER IN MY DREAMS.
AS THOUGH... WE'D STARTED OVER AGAIN FROM THE BEGINNING.
YES. WHAT IS IT? MO-
KNOCK KNOCK
COUGH
AS THOUGH... WE WERE NORMAL FRIENDS?
KNOCK KNOCK

MAY I COME IN, SUZUKI-SAN?
CLICK..
HUH..?
HUH..?
WH-WHY..
COUGH!
YOUR MOTHER LOOKS LIKE YOU, SUZUKI-SAN.
..UM.. I'M HERE TO VISIT YOU..
I WAS WONDERING IF YOUR COLD WAS REALLY BAD
IT'S NOT THAT BAD..
COUGH


...
UM
I KNOW THAT YOU DON'T LIKE ME, BUT
OH, I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE—
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
OH...
UM

HUH—?
I'VE BEEN WANTING TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU FOR A LONG TIME
!
WHAT I DID BACK IN OUR FIRST YEAR... HAS BEEN BOTHERING ME.
...YOU PROBABLY DON'T REMEMBER, BUT

I HAD A MARK ON MY NECK... AND PEOPLE SAID STUFF ABOUT IT..
BECAUSE I WAS AN "OUTSIDE" STUDENT... I DIDN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS...
UM...
YOU'RE MIZUKI-SAN, RIGHT?
IF THE TEACHER NOTICES... YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE, SO...
PLEASE USE THIS, IF YOU'D LIKE...
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS MY FAULT... I WAS EMBARRASSED FOR SOME REASON, AND...
...I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT THAT ANY-MORE
YEAH BUT...
NOBODY ELSE HAD OFFERED TO HELP LIKE THAT.
SO EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE TRYING TO HELP ME, IT BOTHERED ME
hehe

I CAN STILL——.
SORRY.
I CAN STILL VIVIDLY REMEMBER THE RED MARK ON HER NECK——
——WAS IT——. A HICKEY?
AT THAT TIME, I WAS HURT BY HER REJEC-TION——.
THIS TIME, I SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY REASON TO FEEL HURT, AND YET——.
DO YOU—— LOVE HIM?
HUH?
——YEAH WELL. I'M SEEING A DIFFERENT PERSON RIGHT NOW——
I SEE——

I'm embarrassed...
OH, SUZUKI-SAN, DO YOU HAVE A BOY-FRIEND?
..I..
DON'T WANT TO FALL IN LOVE, SO
HMM. WELL... I THINK SO?
BATHED BY THE SETTING SUN,
HER CHEEKS AND NECK, USUALLY SO PALE, HAD A SLIGHT REDDISH CAST TO THEM.—
I DON'T WANT TO FALL IN LOVE
BECAUSE—
OH? YOU'RE THE GIRL FROM BEFORE—
ちょこん

I'LL BE BACK IN A BIT TO TAKE YOUR TEMPERATURE.
I HAVE TO STEP OUT FOR A MOMENT RIGHT NOW, BUT...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? I HAVE A BED OPEN RIGHT NOW, SO HOW ABOUT YOU LIE DOWN FOR A BIT?
I WONDER IF IT'S A COLD? YOUR FACE WAS RED THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU, TOO.
COUGH
IT SEEMS I HAVE A BIT OF A FEVER...
I KNOW
THAT SHE OFTEN RESTS IN THIS BED DUE TO HER ANEMIA...
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN WATCHING HER ALL THE TIME
EVEN THOUGH I'VE ALREADY BEEN AT THIS SCHOOL FOR SIX YEARS,
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE LOOKED AT THIS CEILING
IT MUST BE THE SAME AREA THAT SHE'S ALWAYS LOOKING AT...
RATTLE
HM?
SENSEI.
CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A BIT?
COUGH

I'VE BEEN AT THIS SCHOOL SINCE JUNIOR HIGH.
SO THE ONLY GUYS I'M FAMILIAR WITH ARE MY FATHER AND TEACHERS.
BECAUSE OF THAT...
I'VE NEVER... DATED A BOY...
I SEE...
CAUGHT
AND SO... I KNOW
THAT THIS... ISN'T REALLY LOVE...
I'VE KNOWN.
BOTH THE THROBBING OF MY HEART
AND THE REPEATING DREAMS.
I WONDER WHAT SORT OF PERSON THE MAN WHO TOUCHES HER IS?
IT'S PROBABLY THAT I WAS LONGING TO EXPERIENCE SOMETHING I'D ONLY HEARD ABOUT IN NOVELS AND TV DRAMAS...
IN LOVE WITH LOVE, YOU COULD SAY...
THE FINGER-TIP THAT SHE TOUCHED
IS STILL SO HOT,
AND HER BEAUTIFUL NECK...

MY THINKING THAT I LOVE HER...
IS JUST MY MIS-UNDER-STANDING THE SITU-ATION...
I KNOW THAT, BUT
THIS ILLUSION OF LOVE IS SO PAINFUL...
AND YET IF I WERE TO FALL IN LOVE FOR REAL, I'M SURE...
THAT IT WOULD BE MUCH, MUCH MORE PAIN-FUL...
I'M SURE I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO BEAR IT.
SO I DON'T WANT TO FALL IN LOVE —
Ahh...
OH, GEEZ... I'M SORRY...
I THINK I REALLY MUST HAVE A FEVER... TALKING LIKE THIS...

—SOMEDAY? I'LL FALL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE?
YOU'LL EXPERIENCE A WONDERFUL LOVE... SINCE IT'S YOU, SUZUKI-SAN.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'M SURE THAT SOMEDAY...
...SENSEI?
THAT'S NOT TRUE...
SOMEDAY,
JUST AS SHE HAS...
SHOOK
RATTLE RATTLE

WHAAT? ANOTHER COLLEGE WAS RECOMMENDED TO YOU, MIZUKI?
THEN WE'LL BE GOING TO DIFFERENT COLLEGES, HUH?
YEAH.
I'M GOING TO THE AFFILIATED JUNIOR COLLEGE TOO~
WE'LL BE AT THE AFFILIATED COLLEGE TOGETHER TOO, HUH~?
THE FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE BUILDINGS ARE SO FAR AWAY~
—THEN YOU SHOULD HAVE PICKED THE JUNIOR COLLEGE
SOME-DAY, I'M SURE...
I'M SURE I'LL FALL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, I'M SURE I'LL REMEMBER
THIS LOVE FROM I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN.
THIS LOVE FROM I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN. END

THIS LOVE FROM I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN

a Lililicious project
http://www.lililicious.net
#lililicious@irc.rizon.net

scans procured by: Sailor Avalon
translated by: Sailor Avalon
edited by: Elae
QC'ed by: Tiramur, SpaceTart, & Sailor Avalon

OOOOOH! A NEW DISH?
THE CHERRIES LOOK DELICIOUS~!
YAAAAY!
BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT I'M CAREFUL TO ONLY TOUCH YOU THREE TIMES A DAY.
I JUST MIXED THE INGREDIENTS TOGETHER AND BAKED THEM.
IT DIDN'T TAKE MUCH WORK
OUR CLASSMATES ARE FOOLING AROUND AND HAVING FUN. IT'S A COMMON SIGHT.
OUR OWN BEHAVIOR SHOULD ALSO BE A COMMON SIGHT, NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY,
#hrieh
#hrieh
NEVER GETTING TOO CLOSE TO YOU BUT NEVER MOVING TOO FAR AWAY EITHER
OH! ERI'S HOME-MADE SWEETS!
I WANT SOME TOOO!
OHHH! ME TOO, ME TOO!
NOOOO WAY! I'M ALWAYS FIRST IN LINE!
Here, ahhhh!
cheep
cheep
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. Here you go.
giggle
CHOMP
I DO IT SO THAT I CAN BE CLOSER TO YOU THAN ANYONE ELSE WITHOUT AROUSING YOUR SUSPICIONS.
IT'S DELICIOUS! IF YOU CAN MAKE SOMETHING LIKE THIS SO EASILY,
THEN YOUR HANDS MUST BE MAGIC, ♪ ERI-CHIN! ♪
IT REALLY IS SIMPLE I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETIME, CHIHARU.
SO YOU CAN MAKE IT FOR THE PERSON YOU LOVE SOMEDAY ——
Wow, wowww~!
*NOTE: "-CHIN" IS A CUTESY SUFFIX

MY FEELINGS WILL NEVER BE RETURNED
—— YEAH
PLEASE
BUT I'M NOT SAD ABOUT IT. NOT IN THE SLIGHTEST.
I'LL HAVE TO TRY TO KEEP FROM TOUCHING HER AGAIN TODAY...
OH, NO THAT WAS THE THIRD TIME...
IN RETURN FOR NOT BEING SPECIAL TO HER IN THAT PARTICULAR WAY, I'LL GET TO STAY BY HER SIDE FOREVER...
A HEART-STIRRING YURI MANGA
ラブきゅん百合コミック
20p
AS LONG AS I DON'T TELL HER HOW I FEEL
SHOW ME SOMETIME.
CHERRIES FOR YOUR LIPS
くちびるにチェリー
森永みるく
Milk Morinaga

ERI-CHIN STARTED MAKING SWEETS
WHEN WE ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL...
BACK IN JUNIOR HIGH,
SAKURAKAI GIRLS JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL WIND INSTRUMENT RECITAL
IT WAS A SILVER FLUTE SHE HELD. AN INSTRUMENT AS BEAUTIFUL AS THE HANDS THAT GRASPED IT.
I CAN REMEMBER IT CLEARLY EVEN NOW.
HER BEAUTIFUL FINGERTIPS FLEW OVER THE INSTRUMENT AS THOUGH THEY WERE BEING SWEPT ALONG BY SOME SUPERIOR FORCE.
HER STRONG, CLEAR TONE
PERFECTLY EMBODIED HER PERSONALITY...

★ THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PERSONS, GROUPS, OR EVENTS IS STRICTLY COINCIDENTAL

WHEN WE ENDED UP IN THE SAME CLASS IN HIGH SCHOOL, I WAS REALLY HAPPY.
I APPROACHED HER RIGHT AWAY, AND WE BECAME FRIENDS
AND JUST AROUND THE TIME WHEN I ASKED HER...
IF I COULD SPEND MORE TIME WITH HER, IT HAPPENED
MY RIGHT ARM IS FINE.
SO I WON'T REALLY HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH MY DAY-TO-DAY LIFE.
AND I'M QUITTING BAND,
SO I'LL BE ABLE TO GO HOME TOGETHER WITH YOU FROM NOW ON.
TWO YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THEN

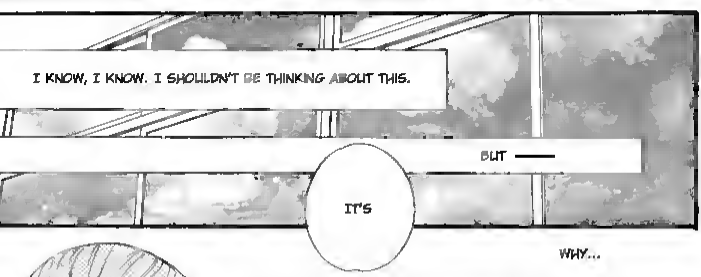
HUH?!
Um.
..WANT SOME?
I drank half of it already, but...
JUST AS SHE'D SAID, WE ENDED UP SPENDING OUR AFTERNOONS AFTER SCHOOL TOGETHER.
THERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU CAN MAKE EVEN WITHOUT AN OVEN
THEY'RE DEEP-FRIED, SO CALORIES ARE A BIT OF A WORRY, BUT...
SLURP
Was I looking at you like I wanted some? You were.
TH- THANKS! I'M THIRSTY.
ACK! MAYBE I WAS STARING TOO MUCH.
WE GREW CLOSER WITH THE TIME WE SPENT TOGETHER,
BECOMING BEST FRIENDS
slurp
AN INDIRECT KISS.. EHEHE..
JUST TELL ME IF THERE'S EVER SOMETHING
YOU WANT ME TO MAKE AGAIN FOR YOU, CHIHARU.
SWEETS FOR
NG AND SUMMER

Fig and Cherry Gratin
HEY, ERI-CHIN, LET'S MAKE THIS ONE
THIS ONE LOOKS GOOD: CHERRY AND GRAPE GRATIN.
..OH..
OKAY...
—— IN EXCHANGE FOR HER INJURY,
I WAS GRANTED THIS CURRENT JOY.
NEXT T-...
SHE SMELLS LIKE VANILLA.
BAFUM
BAFUM
dreamy
ZZZ——...

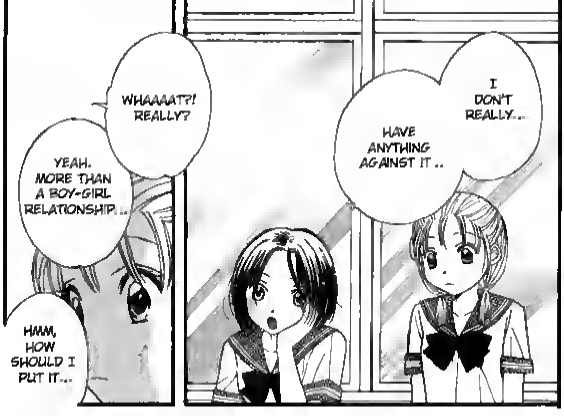
Touch...
OH... THAT'S THE FOURTH TIME TODAY...
BUT SHE'S ASLEEP... SO IT SHOULD BE OKAY...
Zzz——
—— IF I DARED TO WISH FOR ANY MORE HAPPINESS THAN THIS, I'D PROBABLY BE PUNISHED FOR IT.
WE GRADUATE NEXT YEAR...
I WISH
THE WORLD WOULD JUST END RIGHT NOW...
SO PLEASE...
DON'T LET THIS HAPPINESS BE DESTROYED

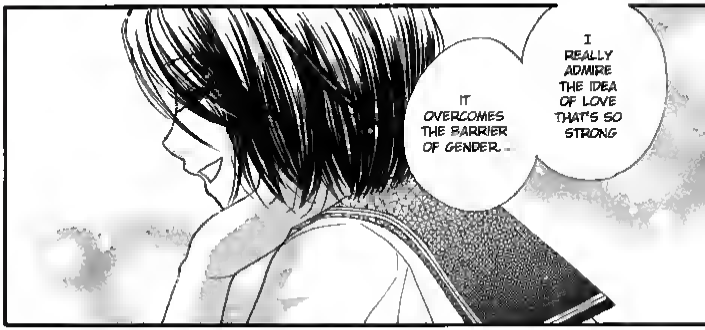
AHHH!
PLEASE DON'T LET IT BE DESTROYED...
..YOU GUYS ARE REALLY CLOSE
.....
A chick and its mother..?
MAYBE EVEN TOO CLOSE.
GULP
Haha
WOULD YOU LIKE ANOTHER?
I HAVE TO HAVE ONE OF YOUR DESSERTS AFTER I EAT,
OR MY STOMACH ISN'T SATISFIED.
chomp
EHEHE! ISH GUH!
CHEW
CHEW
Just a bite
It's good! Ex
YOU WERE IN DIFFERENT CLASSES BACK IN JUNIOR HIGH, RIGHT?
YEAH.
CLING CLING
YEAH!
OF COURSE.. I'VE BEEN WORKING SO HARD TO GET TO THIS POINT.
REALLY? I THINK WE'RE NORMAL
IT WOULDN'T COME AS MUCH OF A SURPRISE
YOU KNOW, IF YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING OUT,

I SHOULDN'T WANT HER TO NOTICE THEM
DON'T SAY THOSE THINGS, EVEN AS A JOKE —— SHE SHOULDN'T NOTICE MY FEELINGS
OH, NO~!
DON'T SAY WEIRD STUFF LIKE THAT~!
STOP IT.

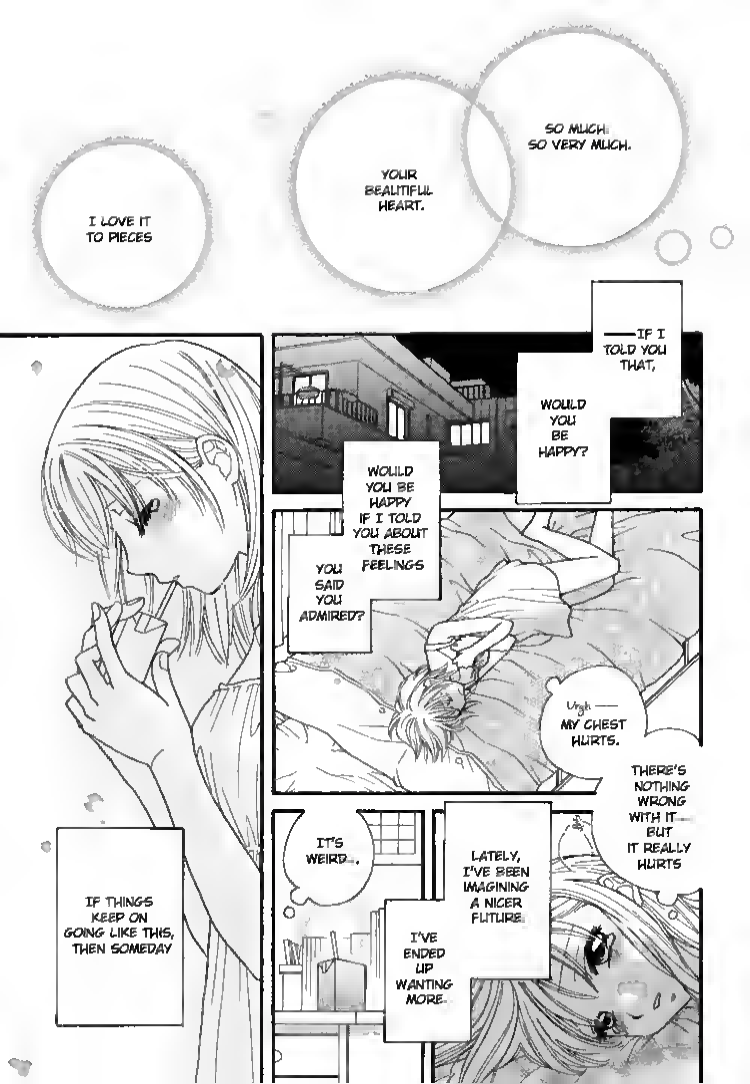

I KNOW, I KNOW. I SHOULDN'T BE THINKING ABOUT THIS.
BUT ——
IT'S
WHY...

WHY IS IT WRONG FOR HER TO BE THE PERSON I LOVE THE MOST?
GROSS... Y'KNOW?


HMM, HOW SHOULD I PUT IT...
YEAH. MORE THAN A BOY-GIRL RELATIONSHIP...
WHAAAAT?! REALLY?
I DON'T REALLY... HAVE ANYTHING AGAINST IT..
REALLY?

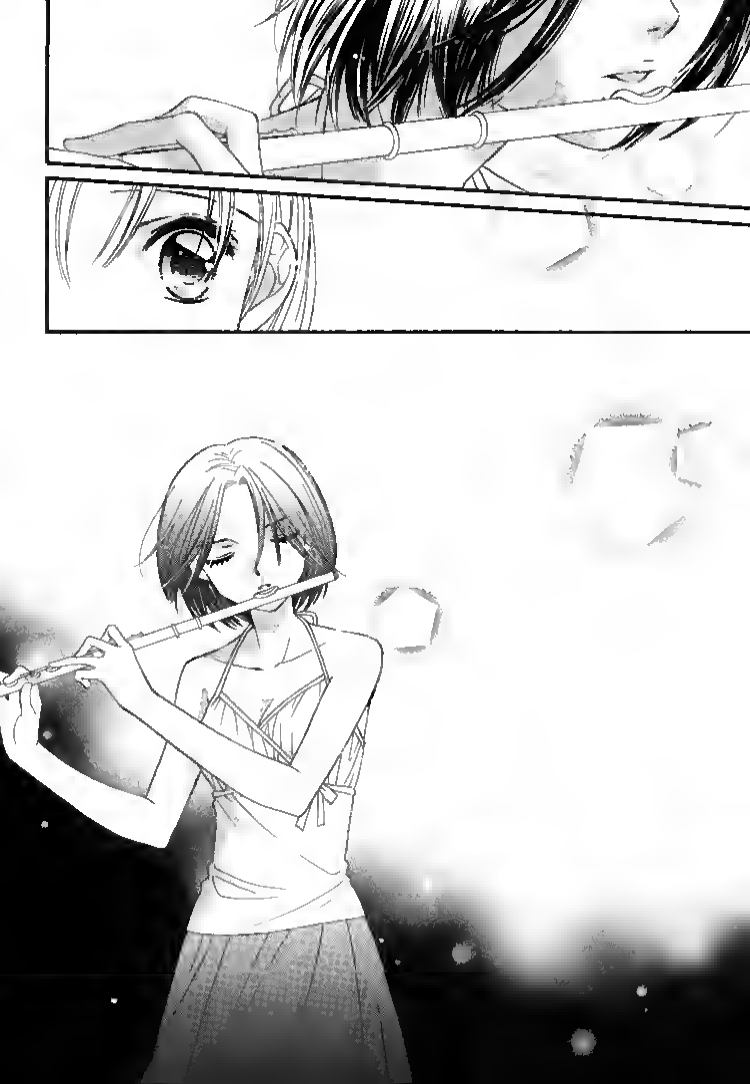

I REALLY ADMIRE THE IDEA OF LOVE THAT'S SO STRONG
IT OVERCOMES THE BARRIER OF GENDER...

...I LOVE IT SO MUCH.
WHAT THE HEEEEECK?!
Gleeeee!
IT'S NOT EVEN FUNNY WHEN YOU GUYS SAY IT!
Ahaha
AHHH! WE'LL HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR YOU NOW, ERI!!
SHRIEK
SHRIEK
Ahaha!
Whaaat? Really?


I LOVE IT TO PIECES
YOUR BEAUTIFUL HEART.
SO MUCH. SO VERY MUCH.
——IF I TOLD YOU THAT,
WOULD YOU BE HAPPY?
WOULD YOU BE HAPPY IF I TOLD YOU ABOUT THESE FEELINGS
YOU SAID YOU ADMIRED?
Ugh—— MY CHEST HURTS.
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH IT— BUT IT REALLY HURTS
LATELY, I'VE BEEN IMAGINING A NICER FUTURE.
I'VE ENDED UP WANTING MORE.
IT'S WEIRD...
IF THINGS KEEP ON GOING LIKE THIS, THEN SOMEDAY

MY FEELINGS ARE GOING TO END UP HURTING YOU.
THEN MIX IN THE HONEY...
drip
drip
....
CHIHARU?
ARE YOU LISTENING?
gasp ....
HUH?
OH, SORRY, WHAT WAS THAT?
.....
UM, I CAN ADD THE EGG YOLKS NOW, RIGHT?
WHISK
WHISK
OH, NO! I'M OVER AT ERI'S HOUSE,
SOMEWHERE I ALMOST NEVER GET TO GO, AND YET I'M...
.....
I WANT US TO BE THE SORT OF FRIENDS WHO KEEP IN TOUCH AFTER HIGH SCHOOL...

..HOLD ON A MINUTE.
...
HUH?
Is she going to the bathroom..?
..?
SORRY I KEPT YOU WAITING.
HUH.....? THAT'S..
grip..
IT CAN'T BE!



YOU HAVEN'T PLAYED EVEN ONCE SINCE YOU INJURED YOUR ARM...
I CAN'T PLAY AS WELL AS I DID BEFORE.
BUT PLEASE THINK OF THE MISTAKES AS PART OF THE CHARM.
THAT ISN'T TRUE AT ALL.
THE WAY YOU PLAY HASN'T CHANGED IN THE SLIGHTEST.
YOUR TONE IS STILL GENTLE, STRONG,
I DID IT BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN DOWN LATELY, CHIHARU.
WHY?

BEFORE .. WHEN I WAS INJURED,
YOU WERE ALWAYS THERE BY MY SIDE, CHEERFUL AND BRIGHT,
AND THAT ALWAYS CHEERED ME UP A LOT ..
Wash
I WASN'T SURE IF IT WOULD CHEER YOU UP OR NOT..
BUT YOU DID SAY BEFORE THAT YOU LIKED MY FLUTE PLAYING, RIGHT?
AND CLEAR..
You've got some on your cheek~
DIET
NO ARTIFICIAL FOOD SWEETS
DO YOU... FEEL ANY BETTER NOW?
YOU'D ALREADY BEEN HURT BY THAT EXPERIENCE,
AND I DIDN'T WANT TO ADD TO YOUR PAIN.
AND IT WAS THANKS TO YOU
THAT I DISCOVERED THIS HIDDEN TALENT.
Maybe I'll really try to be a pastry chef comedienne!

I'M SO EMBARRASSED
OH, WELL, IT REALLY SOUNDS AWFUL WHEN YOU PLAY FOR THE FIRST TIME AFTER A LONG BREAK, DOESN'T IT?
I DIDN'T WANT TO CAUSE YOU ANY MORE WORRY BY PUSHING MY FEELINGS ON YOU.
THUD...
Actually, I DID SNEAK IN A PRACTICE YESTERDAY, BUT...
HEARING THAT TONE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG WHILE REALLY BROUGHT BACK MEMORIES.
YOU'RE A REALLY STRONG PERSON.
THE ONE I'VE REALLY BEEN AFRAID OF HURTING
IS MYSELF.

CHIHARU!?
BWAAAA
THAT'S WHITE WINE..!!
HUH!?
thunk!
GULP GULP
REALLY?
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT..
HEY..
...YEAH! THANKS!! I FEEL A LOT BETTER!!
OKAY!!
LET'S GET BACK TO COOKING!!
YOU'RE FULL OF ENERGY ALL OF A SUDDEN
You all right?
I wonder if we have enough white wine left?
GUTS!
YEAH! I'M GOING TO MAKE A REALLY DELICIOUS ONE!!

I WAS JUST THINKING
THAT I WANT TO GIVE IT TO THE PERSON I'M IN LOVE WITH...
YEAH!
THAT'S RIGHT
THE PERSON I'M IN LOVE WITH. .
Wow!
So that's what it was.
IS REALLY STRONG
AND KIND.
Blush
SHE'S A WONDERFUL PERSON
I'M NOT SCARED ANYMORE.

EVEN IF I'M NOT THE PERSON YOU LOVE THE MOST,
AND EVEN IF I CAN'T STAY BY YOUR SIDE ANYMORE,
YOU'LL ALWAYS STILL HAVE THE BIGGEST PLACE IN MY HEART.
IF THIS TURNS OUT WELL,
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT, ERI-CHIN.

CHERRIES FOR YOUR LIPS ★ END

くちびるにチェリー★END

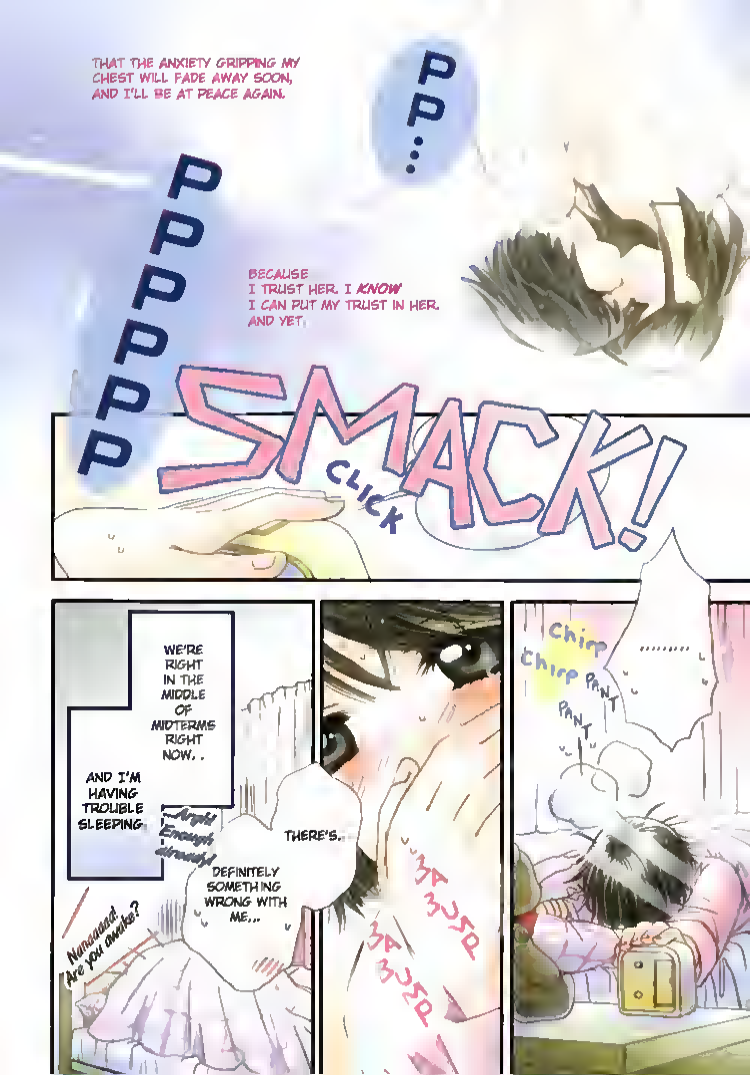
Cherries For Your Lips

Scanned by: Anonymous
Translated by: Sailor Avalon
Edited by: lilith1013
QC'd by: The Lory, ElsewhereCW, and Sailor Avalon

Your lips, voice,
and fingers
set me trembling.
24P
If I Kiss
Her Ring Finger
A collected volume will be coming out on January [illegible]!
Details to follow.★
森永みるく
Milk Morinaga

SHE GENTLY RUNS HER LONG FINGERS THROUGH MY HAIR.
WHEN I OPEN MY EYES
I SEE A PALE EXPANSE OF SKIN, NEARLY TRANSPARENT SWEPT WITH DELICATE THREADS OF HAIR
EACH TIME SHE CALLS OUT MY NAME,
IT MAKES ME WANT TO CRY.

WHEN SHE PUTS HER ARMS AROUND ME
WE CLING TO EACH OTHER SO TIGHTLY
THAT I CAN'T TELL WHERE I LEAVE
OFF AND SHE BEGINS
WE GAZE INTO EACH OTHER'S EYES
AND KISS EACH OTHER
IT FEELS AS THOUGH
WE'RE GOING TO MELT AWAY
AND I KNOW


THAT THE ANXIETY GRIPPING MY CHEST WILL FADE AWAY SOON, AND I'LL BE AT PEACE AGAIN.
PP...
PPPPPP
BECAUSE I TRUST HER. I KNOW I CAN PUT MY TRUST IN HER. AND YET,
CLICK
SMACK!
WE'RE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF MIDTERMS RIGHT NOW. .
AND I'M HAVING TROUBLE SLEEPING.
...Argh! Enough already!
THERE'S...
DEFINITELY SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME,...
Nanaaaa! Are you awake?
MA MUSU
MA MUSU
Chirp Chirp
PANT PANT
.....

BUT...
I CAN FINALLY SEE HER NOW...
I DID REALLY TERRIBLY ON MY MIDTERMS...
WHAT'LL I DO IF I FAIL?!
SIIIIGH
MAGAZINES
I DIDN'T TRY TO CONTACT HER DURING MIDTERMS BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO DISTRACT HER FROM STUDYING...
THAT'S WHY I WAS HAVING THOSE DREAMS
BUT SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG WITH ME...
IF I'M HAVING THOSE SORTS OF DREAMS...
BLUSH!
OH...
THIS MODEL KIND OF LOOKS LIKE HER...
I MEAN, WE STILL HAVEN'T—
DONE ANYTHING MORE THAN KISS...
NANA!! SORRY I'M LATE!!
BABUMP!
GRAB

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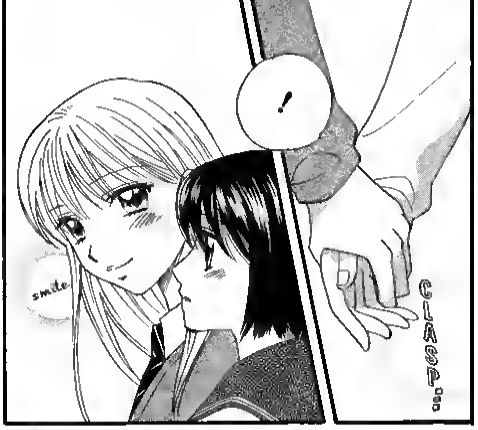
I'm really sorry—!
YOU GOT OUT OF SCHOOL EARLY TODAY, RIGHT?
YOU SHOULDN'T'VE WAITED FOR ME!
HITOMI AND I HAVE BEEN CLOSE EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS—
IT'S BEEN ALMOST HALF A YEAR NOW SINCE WE BECAME MORE THAN FRIENDS—
BUT I DON'T BUY THAT
PEOPLE SAY THAT WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE, THE PERSON WHO FALLS IN LOVE FIRST LOSES,
—NO, HITOMI'S PRETTIER THAN THAT MODEL—
IT'S FINE I DID SOME SHOPPING.
You didn't have practice after school today. We have to take advantage of your free time.
But I'm still sorry—!
REALLY?

TOTALLY AWFUL~~~!
BEFORE WE ENDED UP GOING TO DIFFERENT HIGH SCHOOLS,
WE WERE TOGETHER ALL THE TIME BUT WE WERE JUST FRIENDS...
HOW DID YOUR MIDTERMS GO?
I'M GLAD MY SCHOOL HAS A TWO-TERM SYSTEM.— WE ONLY HAVE TESTS FOUR TIMES A YEAR.
HITOMI'S ALWAYS BEEN TALL AND BEAUTIFUL. SHE REALLY STANDS OUT...
BUT
HAS SHE ALWAYS BEEN THIS PRETTY...?
IT'S LIKE THE ATMOSPHERE AROUND HER IS DIFFERENT
I WANT TO GAZE AT HER FOREVER
I WANT TO LISTEN TO HER FOREVER
I'M... PRETTY PLAIN, SO HITOMI AND I DON'T REALLY MATCH...
IT'S A LITTLE EMBARRASSING
I THINK I'M THE ONE WHO'S HEAD OVER HEELS FOR HER RIGHT NOW



SUM-MARY

NINA AND HITOMI ARE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS WHO ARE GOING TO DIFFERENT HIGH SCHOOLS. NINA HAS A CRUSH ON HER FRIEND BUT SHE DOESN'T KNOW IF SHE LIKES HITOMI AS A FRIEND OR SOMETHING MORE. THE TWO OF THEM ARE MORE THAN FRIENDS NOW, BUT

SAYING THE WORDS I'VE BEEN WANTING SO BADLY TO HEAR.

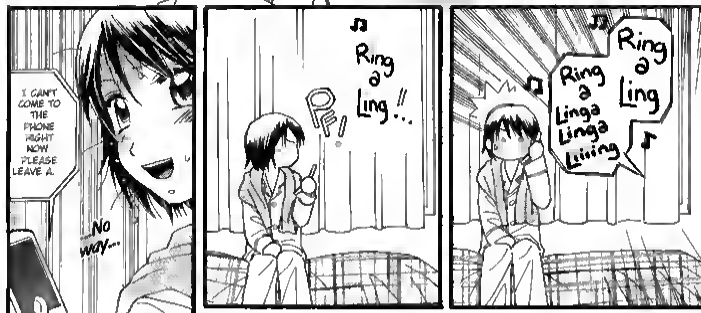
—THAT TIME BEFORE, HITOMI—
SAID—
IT'S NOT ENOUGH JUST KISSING YOU— I WANT TO TOUCH YOU MORE—
I'M ALWAYS A LITTLE RELIEVED
AND A LITTLE—
—I THOUGHT— SHE MEANT THAT
BUT MAYBE I WAS WRONG—
DING DONG♫
OH! WELCOME BACK, ABE-CHAN. IS THE DRAMA CLUB MEETING OVER?
WE WORKED ALL THE WAY THROUGH LUNCH! AND THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL JUST ENDED, TOO!
DONG♫
MUST BE ROUGH!
THUD
SHE NEVER TAKES THINGS FARTHER—
WAIT!!
IT'S NOT LIKE I WANT HER TO DO MORE THAN KISS ME, THOUGH!!
IT'S JUST— IT'S JUST—!!
BLUSH
DING DONG
Am I being rude?
NANA-CHIN*, WHAT'S WITH ALL THE FUNNY FACES?
THE PLAY YOU GUYS DID AT THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL WAS GREAT, THOUGH
YOU WERE PERFECT AS THE PRINCESS
What?!
OH NOOO! YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME!
*NOTE: A CUTESY, FAMILIAR SUFFIX.

It's too soon, Sensei!!
WHAAAAAT?
ALL RIGHT, TAKE YOUR SEATS, EVERYONE!! I KNOW IT'S A BIT EARLY, BUT I'LL BE HANDING BACK YOUR MIDTERMS NOW!
I'LL BE CALLING OUT NAMES, SO COME UP AND GET YOUR PAPER WHEN YOU'RE CALLED.
CHATTER
CHATTER
Ah—!
Now,
Yeah, really—!
THEN... HITOMI AND I WOULD LOOK RIGHT TOGETHER.
...I WISH I WAS AS CUTE AS ABE-CHAN.
HITOMI... REALLY LIKED THE PLAY TOO...
You should dress up like that too, Nami!
With a great big ribbon!
A princess! That's gracious!
That's what she said—
*NOTE: IN THIS CASE, "TEACHER."
scrape
Oh.
YES!
KOBA-YASHI—
ABE—
IIDA—
WHAT?!
A MAKE-UP TEST?
ER, THE DATE OF THE MAKE-UP TEST IS—
THE AVERAGE IS 70!! IF YOU GOT BELOW A 50, YOU NEED TO TAKE A MAKE-UP TEST!!
OH, YEAH. I... DID AWFUL ON MY MIDTERMS.
shriek—
Oh, Father!
wah! wah!

We can celebrate your being done with the make-up tests...
OH! WELL, IF YOU HAVE A TEST ON WEDNESDAY, HOW ABOUT WE CELEBRATE THE DAY AFTER?
OH! SORRY, I HAVE ANOTHER CALL
SORRY I BOTHERED YOU DURING PRACTICE BYE
BEEP...
Hitomi! Get back here already
THUNK
95
21
CLOSE...
YEAH, IT'S NEXT WEDNESDAY SORRY I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE YOU ON SATURDAY NOW...
I GOTTA STUDY
HUH? WE CAN STUDY TOGETHER, THEN, RIGHT?
SORRY, BUT I WANT TO STUDY ON MY OWN...
I'LL TEXT YOU LATER!
KA-THUNK
KA-THUNK
KA-THUNK
I REALLY DON'T LIKE MYSELF RIGHT NOW...
I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT ALL THIS WEIRD STUFF AND MY GRADES ARE GOING DOWN THE TOILET...
KA-THUNK
KA-THUNK
IT'S CREATING A GULF BETWEEN US...
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO FACE HITOMI ANYMORE
SHE'S SMART AND PRETTY
AND SHE SAYS SHE LOVES ME

Good luck!
Miss you.
Good luck in your test tmrw!! If there's anything you need, let me know, okay?
HEARING THOSE WORDS FROM HER SHOULD MAKE ME HAPPY,
SINCE SHE MEANS SO MUCH TO ME
BUT THE TRUTH IS, WHENEVER SHE SAYS IT, I FEEL A LITTLE UNEASY
I text you tomrrow. Night! Love you!
MENU
AND MY HEART ACHES A BIT.
I HAVEN'T.. TEXTED HITOMI BACK AT ALL THESE PAST FIVE DAYS..
DOING
DOING
THANK GOODNESS! I DID PRETTY WELL..
DOING
DOING
ALL RIGHT, TIME'S UP!! PASS YOUR PAPERS TO THE BACK

clench
I WANT TO SEE HER. I KNEW I WOULD
BUT...
Call Menu
Call
Hi-tom
I DON'T MIND IF IT MAKES ME UNCOMFORTABLE,
OR EVEN IF IT HURTS
AND I'M GOING TO BE HONEST WITH HER
ABOUT HOW I FEEL


I CAN'T COME TO THE PHONE RIGHT NOW. PLEASE LEAVE A
NO way...
Ring a Ling!..
Ring a Ling
Ring a Linga Linga Liiing

Oh, no... I'm sorry...
Come in, Come in!
HONESTLY, NINA! YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME HITOMI-CHAN WAS COMING TO STAY OVER TONIGHT...
I'M SO SORRY, HITOMI-CHAN...
I don't have anything really for you...
Ehe...
I'M SORRY TO IMPOSE ON YOU SO LATE IN THE EVENING.
GEEZ HITOMI HOW LONG WERE YOU OUT THERE?
THUD
You startled me...
O-OH, NO, I JUST STOPPED BY ON MY WAY BACK FROM THE CONVENIENCE STORE...
Hitomi?!
Crap...! She found me!
I caught you red-handed, and you're trying to make excuses...?
BUT THAT STORE'S IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM MY HOUSE...
HONESTLY...! IT'S NOT SAFE TO BE OUT ALONE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT...!
HITOMI'S USUALLY SO LEVEL-HEADED, BUT SOMETIMES
SHE DOES STUFF I JUST DON'T GET...
I—
I'M SORRY— I I'M SO—
HUH...?

ramble
I HAVE TOMORROW OFF. SO I WAS GOING TO JUST TEXT YOU TONIGHT AND THEN
TRY CALLING YOU TOMORROW
THAT WAS MY PLAN...
BUT I JUST COULDN'T MANAGE IT...
SO I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT'VE BEEN SO TIRED YOU JUST FELL ASLEEP...
NANA... YOU SAID YOUR TEST WOULD BE OVER TODAY... BUT YOU DIDN'T TEXT ME
ramble
HITOMI'S
USUALLY PERFECT HAIR IS A MESS. LIKE SHE'S BEEN RUNNING OR SOMETHING...
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT...
I'M SO PATHETIC I'M REALLY SORRY...
I MISSED YOU SO MUCH...
SHE'S INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL...
AND SHE'S WEARING A WEIRD SHIRT... BUT EVEN SO...
AND HER NOSE AND CHEEKS ARE BRIGHT RED...

ME TOO...
MAYBE IT'S PRESUMPTUOUS OF ME TO SAY THIS...
BUT...
I THINK IT'S BECAUSE... I'M IN LOVE WITH HER.
I
MISSED YOU TOO
I... I DIDN'T THINK YOU WANTED TO DO THAT STUFF.
NO, I DO. IT'S JUST THAT I'M NOT PRETTY LIKE YOU, HITOMI...
HUH?!
AND I...
I WANT YOU TO TOUCH ME...
I LOVE YOU
SO I WANT TO TOUCH YOU MORE...

IT MAKES ME WORRY. WHAT IF THERE ARE MALE TEACHERS AT YOUR SCHOOL? AND THERE ARE PERVERTED MEN ON THE TRAIN. . PLUS YOU'RE SO CUTE THAT EVEN GIRLS MIGHT——
mmph
You worry me to death!
TH—THAT'S ENOUGH!
ACTUALLY YOU'VE GOTTEN REALLY CUTE LATELY—
PRETTIEST GIRL I'VE EVER MET, Y'KNOW THAT?
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? YOU'RE—THE CUTEST,
Well?
You're so cute, Nana! You're super-cute! Love ya! Love!
DUPP DUPP
In junior high
N—NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT—
THIS IS WHAT HITOMI'S REALLY LIKE—
NO—LET ME SAY THIS—
WHEN SHE SAID THINGS LIKE THIS I ALWAYS USED TO WONDER—
I LOVE YOU!
I LOVE YOU! SO MUCH—
NANA—
YOU'RE CUTE, AND I LOVE YOU!

NANA, YOU'RE CUTE
I AM? HOW SO?
I LOVE YOU
REALLY? YOU REALLY LOVE ME?
HER WORDS SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT ME JOY, BUT I COULD NEVER TRUST THEM.
THEY JUST MADE MY CHEST TIGHTEN WITH APPREHENSION.
BUT NOW
I JUST WANT TO HOLD YOU. YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL
I WANT TO HOLD YOU TIGHTER, AND CLING TO YOU EVEN MORE. I WANT TO KNOW YOU
WITH THE WHOLE OF MY BEING. I WANT TO TELL YOU

EVEN IF THIS UNEASINESS NEVER GOES AWAY,
WHAT IS IT, NANA?
NO IT'S NOTHING
THE PILLOW'S SMALL, SO LET'S GET CLOSER TOGETHER, HM?
WHEN WE WAKE UP, I'LL KISS YOU FIRST THING
AND TELL YOU
OUR LOVE IS THE REAL THING

If I Kiss Her Ring Finger★ END

If I Kiss Her Ring Finger

Scanned by: Anonymous
Translated by: Sailor Avalon
Edited by: Anonymous
QC'd by: ElsewhereOW, The Lory, Sailor Avalon, and Tiny Snowfairy

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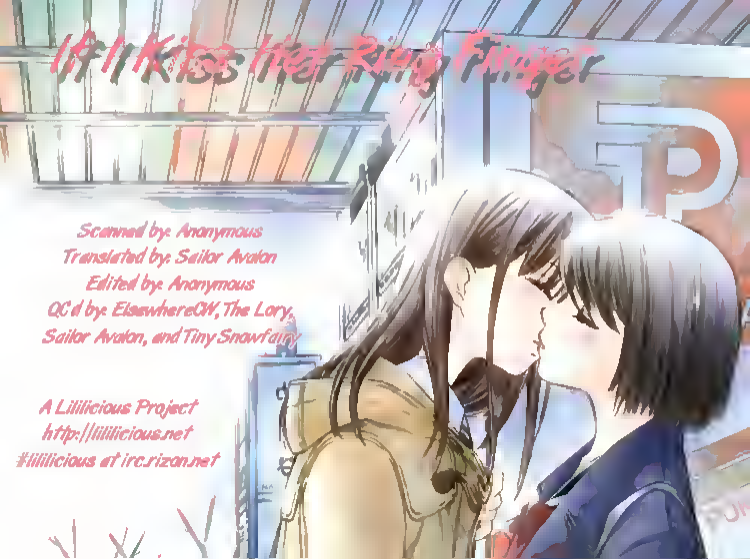


She can't even look him in the eye...
She's shaking with nerves.
But she gathers all her courage and tells him how she feels.
What does that feel like?
ボクの
NOSAKA-SEMPAI*
I... LOVE YOU
LITERATURE CLUB
I write romances, thinking that day might come for me someday too...
But... Will it really ever come?
I thought that love had nothing to do with my reality...
That it was just the stuff of dreams.
Up until now, that is.

*NOTE: HONORIFIC FOR MALE

ホントのキモチ。

REAL LOVE.

My ideal girl confessed her feelings for me!?
An unexpected ☆ love story!

Fifth in the series 24p

When, for the first time in my life, someone confessed their love for me

PLEASE GO OUT WITH ME

I can't keep living in a dream world...!?

...But it was..... ...A girl, and one who was my kouhai * .....

MILK MORINAGA
森永みるく

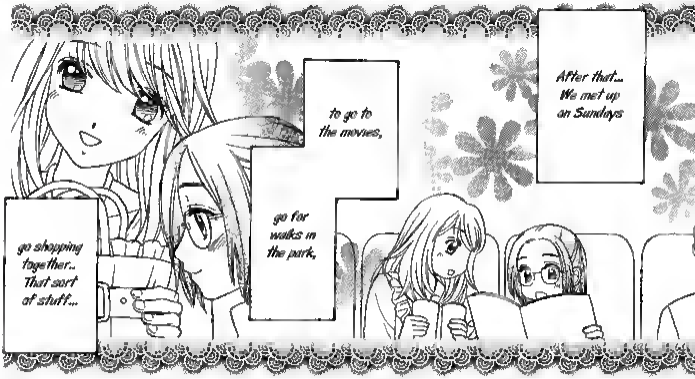
*NOTE. JUNIOR

SILENCE...
...SO WHAT PENALTY GAME*... IS THIS?
Turk Turk
Uh ...
*NOTE: A TASK ONE IS REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT AFTER LOSING A GAME. THINK ALONG THE LINES OF THE "DARE" PART OF "TRUTH OR DARE."
AND ABOUT HOW WE WERE THE ONLY ONES HERE TODAY. DON'T YOU REMEMBER
Hehe Hehe
YOU'RE SO SILLY, SEMPAI WE WERE JUST TALKING A LITTLE BIT AGO
ABOUT HOW THE TWO OF US ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO TAKE COMING TO THE CLUBROOM SERIOUSLY,
**NOTE: A FAMOUS JAPANESE WRITER. SEE HTTP://WWW.KENJI-WORLD.NET/ENGLISH/
*NOTE: 11TH GRADE IN THE US.
I'M ENDOU. ENDOU MICHIRU. I'M IN CLASS 2-3.*
MY FAVORITE WRITER IS MIYAZAWA KENJI**
Oh, that's right.. I was just thinking
that a really cute girl like her... One with such a brilliant smile... Can probably experience a wonderful love in real life...
GLARE
Love...?

How could I not remember it?
It's rare enough that someone would join the club at this time of year...
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT. ♥ I JUST JOINED THE CLUB RECENTLY, SO I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NOT REMEMBER MY NAME YET...
There are only three second years in the club.
I- I KNOW THAT. IT'S OKAY, ENDOU-SAN...
And...That a girl like her would join a club like ours..
A girl...
Just like... The heroine..
Out of one of my stories...
HUH?
BUT... UH... UM-
YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE SERIOUS...
Right?
That's right!
Wh-why would she fall for me..
...And anyway, she and I are...
SEMPAI... ABOUT... YOUR ANSWER...
HUH...?
GULP

...I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU FOR A LONG TIME SEMPAI
Both girls...
I... LOVE YOU.
It must.. Have taken a lot of courage
for her to confess her feelings to another girl, huh...?
ALTHOUGH I CAN'T UNDERSTAND... HOW I COULD BE THE ONE SHE'S IN LOVE WITH...
When I thought about it like that.. I just couldn't turn her down
W-.. Well... H-How about we start off.. Being friends?
...Okay!

Since you gave me your number I went ahead and texted you right away.
♡
It's chilly out tonight so be sure to keep warm so you don't catch a cold
★
Good night!
★
Michiru
♡
DOO bee DOO ♫
—— It's kind of embarrassing.
Someone who has feelings for me was thinking about me, and she sent me a text message...
—— I wonder if dating a guy is like this too...?

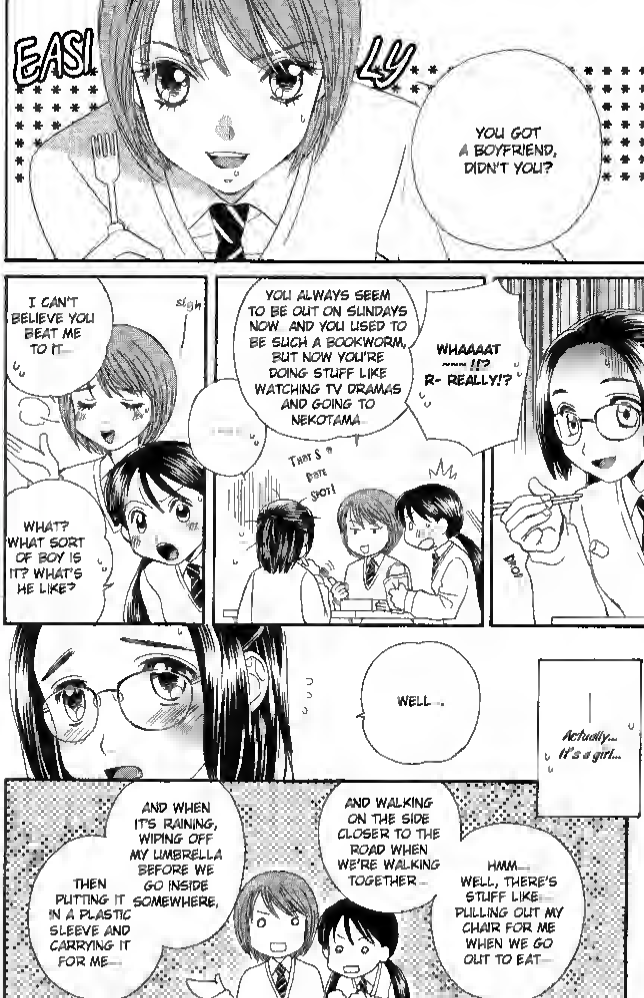

to go to the movies,
go for walks in the park,
go shopping together... That sort of stuff...
After that... We met up on Sundays

BYE! SEE YOU AT SCHOOL TOMORROW!
DA-
Squeeze
It wasn't any different from hanging out with a regular friend, but..
LET'S GO ON ANOTHER DATE AGAIN SOMETIME, SEMPAI
Were those... Really dates...?
My heart...
Is pounding a little..
I had fun today! Let's definitely go to Nekotama* next time~! Good night!
Michiru☆
SUBMENU

NOTE: A CUTESY NICKNAME

NOTE: A CAT PETTING ZOO WITH CATS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

★THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PERSONS, GROUPS, OR EVENTS IS STRICTLY COINCIDENTAL.


EASI
LY
YOU GOT A BOYFRIEND, DIDN'T YOU?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU BEAT ME TO IT—
sigh
WHAT? WHAT SORT OF BOY IS IT? WHAT'S HE LIKE?
YOU ALWAYS SEEM TO BE OUT ON SUNDAYS NOW AND YOU USED TO BE SUCH A BOOKWORM, BUT NOW YOU'RE DOING STUFF LIKE WATCHING TV DRAMAS AND GOING TO NEKOTAMA
THAT'S A BOY! SHOT!
WHAAAAT ~~~ !!? R- REALLY!?
WELL...
Actually... It's a girl...
HMM— WELL, THERE'S STUFF LIKE— PULLING OUT MY CHAIR FOR ME WHEN WE GO OUT TO EAT—
AND WALKING ON THE SIDE CLOSER TO THE ROAD WHEN WE'RE WALKING TOGETHER—
AND WHEN IT'S RAINING, WIPING OFF MY UMBRELLA BEFORE WE GO INSIDE SOMEWHERE,
THEN PUTTING IT IN A PLASTIC SLEEVE AND CARRYING IT FOR ME—

That she's... The one...
Who's always... Being treated like that..
...It's... More likely..
DOESN'T IT SOUND LIKE HE'S HAD A LOT OF EXPERIENCE WITH GIRLS AND THAT'S WHY HE KNOWS HOW TO TREAT THEM NOW?
"IT'S A GIRL, AND SHE'S MY KOUHAI"
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD TELL THEM THAT...
WHAT THE-!? IS HE A PRINCE? IS HE A PRINCE!?
Sounds like a playboy
Are you serious!?
WHAT..?
Good for you
NOT NECESSARILY I BET YOU JUST REALLY MEAN A LOT TO HIM,
NOSAKACCHI
WHAAAT?
SEMPAI.
NOSAKA-SAAAN!
A KOUHAI IS HERE TO SEE YOU~~~!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME OVER TODAY?
WH- WHAT IS IT, MICHIRU-CHAN?
Ack.....! I'm kind of embarrassed.
The "lovers' atmosphere" I've always yearned for might be something like this...
Yeah, right...
Being around her feels really nice...
But she really is... So kind, and so sweet.
...?
A FRIEND HUH
.....
Hehe
I DON'T THINK I'VE GONE OVER TO A FRIEND'S HOUSE... SINCE I WAS BACK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
She's... A girl, but...

HUH...?
FLOOF...
ARE WE STILL JUST FRIENDS?
ARE YOU SCARED?
SHOCK
!!
NO...!
SHOULD G-.....
UM, IT'S GETTING LATE. I...
U-...

THUD...!
SEMPAI...
I LOVE YOU.
SMACK!
OH...

I didn't bother giving it much thought
She told me she was serious... When she said she loved me
I should have thought the situation through better..
I'm... The worst
since we were both girls anyway ...
.....
No, that's not true .....
I was happy when she told me she loved me
It felt good to be loved by someone
And so I took advantage of her kindness.

There are no new messages
OK
A5403CA
I only thought of myself.
And I ended up
hurting her. ——
'MORNIIING, NOSAKACCHI—
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU FEELING DOWN OR SOMETHING?
I HAVE LITERATURE CLUB TODAY...
After I upset her like that,
how should I act towards her today .....?
NOSAKA-SEMPAI

HUH...?
...DOES IT SUIT ME?
MICHIRU-CHAN...?
Huh?
IS THAT YOUR KOUHAI?
Her hair... Was so beautiful...
Did she cut it because of me...?
...OH. IT'S NOT WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.
Hehe Hehe
I DIDN'T CUT MY HAIR BECAUSE YOU REJECTED ME, SEMPAI.
HUH...? BUT...

I'VE DECIDED TO FIGHT MY BATTLES HERE ON EARTH FROM NOW ON.
SMILE
?
HERE ON EARTH?
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...?
EHE
BUT SINCE YOU TURNED ME DOWN YESTERDAY, I DECIDED TO SWITCH TACTICS ☆
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT GO FOR CUTE HAIR, SEMPAI—
MICHI—
I SHOULDN'T HAVE TOUCHED YOU SO CASUALLY—
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE A Rare Find.
AND I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY
I WAS OUT OF LINE—
Bow

GIRLS LIKE YOU! DON'T EXIST ANYMORE THESE DAYS, SEMPAI
Aha♡
A-- A RARE FIND --?
Sigh
I've failed. I've failed.
NOTE: 1912-1926.
PURE-HEARTED GIRLS LIKE THE ONES WHO EXISTED BACK IN THE TAISHO PERIOD.*
NOTE: THIS IS THE NAME OF A BOOK BY NATSUKI SHIZUKO
UM... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?
She was there.
Back when I was a first-year, some of the girls in my class had the Literature Club zine with them once in a while
The first time I read it, I was completely shocked..
What's that?
You wanna read it?
Uh, I just kind of got it
Part of the
WELL, THAT IS TO SAY... I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU ☆
I'LL BE BLUNT. I'VE HAD MY EYE ON YOU FOR A LONG TIME
Ah
Um...
U...

ALL OF THEM WERE FANTASTICAL STORIES THAT WOULD NEVER TAKE PLACE TODAY ☆
AND THEY EVEN HAD ILLUSTRATIONS!
In the one after that, it was the romance between a girl working at a florist and a university professor.....
The romance between a girl with lung disease and a boy working as the sanatorium's gardener ..
In the next issue, it was the romance between a girl working in a used bookstore and a student...
I wondered who it could be who was writing those sorts of stories...
OH, NOSAKA-SEMPAI?
A member of the Literature Club
OH, SHE'S...
THAT GIRL RIGHT OVER THERE
I THOUGHT THE OTHER CLUB MEMBERS WERE THE ONLY ONES WHO READ IT
B- BUT
Wait! It's a secret because I didn't want you guys to make fun of me ——!
WAHH!
HUHH
SO YOU WRITE STUFF LIKE THAT, NOSAKACCHI...
I've always liked reading quite a lot ♪
I LOOKED FOR PAST ISSUES OF THE ZINE IN THE LIBRARY AND TORE THROUGH ALL THE WRITER'S PREVIOUS STORIES
MY INTEREST IN IT ENDED UP GOING BEYOND MERE AMUSEMENT IT ENDED UP BECOMING ALMOST LIKE AN OBSESSION

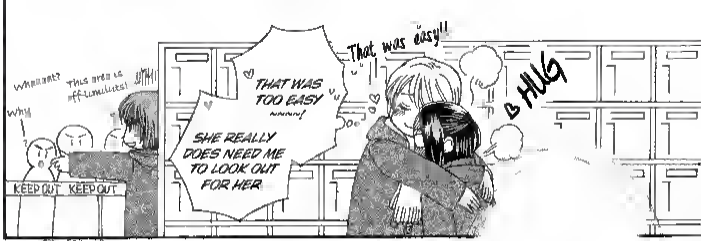
Sh-... She's so different from what I expected...
She's so plain!
TRU DEE
TRU DEE
Oh... She fell...
Fall
THUD
Sta gat
Sta gat
Wh-... What a spaz
BOW BOW
Will she be all right?
.....
SHE REALLY MUST BE INNOCENT...
Hmm
All of the stories were about pure-hearted girls longing for romance.
And the couples never went farther than holding hands.

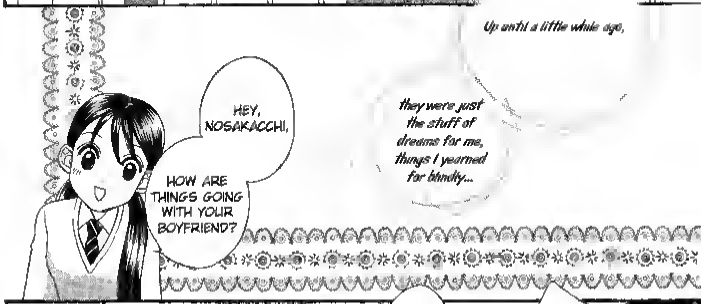
I was kind of worried about you... Before I knew it, I'd gotten in the habit of following you with my eyes...
AHH!
Aghhh...
THEN ONE DAY I HAD A DREAM ABOUT YOU,
SEMPAI
HUH...?
SOME STUPID GUY WAS TRICKING YOU INTO GOING WITH HIM. IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS TRYING TO KIDNAP YOU...
HUH!?
AND FOR SOME REASON, I GALLANTLY CAME TO YOUR RESCUE!
HUH...?
EVER SINCE THAT DAY I'VE...
MICHIRU-CHA-
BURUN
BEEN... WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU!!
BEFORE I KNEW IT, YOU WERE A SENIOR
WOULD YOU BE GRADUATING THE NEXT YEAR? GOING OFF TO COLLEGE?
ONCE YOU WERE IN COLLEGE, EVEN PLAIN AND INNOCENT AS YOU WERE, YOU'D BE GOING TO MIXERS AND STUFF...
AS SUSCEPTIBLE TO GUYS AS YOU WERE, I WAS SURE BAD PEOPLE WOULD END UP TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOU...
JAW DROPPING
A
444!

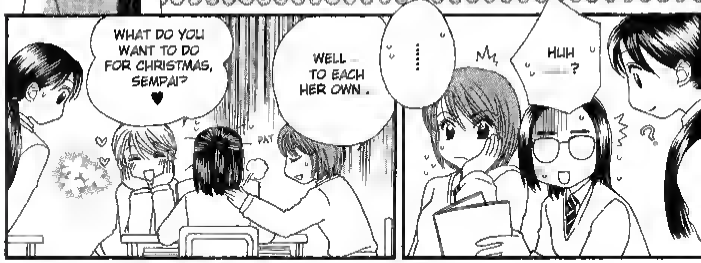
S- SORRY
AND LET HIM PUSH YOU DOWN LIKE I DID! DON'T YOU GET IT!?
YOU CAN'T JUST BLINDLY GO INTO A GUY'S ROOM --- ESPECIALLY ONE WHO'S INTERESTED IN YOU --- LIKE THAT
Y'KNOW, YESTERDAY, IF I'D BEEN A GUY, I'D HAVE GONE ALL THE WAY! DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT!?
BUT YOU LET PEOPLE PRESSURE YOU INTO THINGS, DON'T YOU?
U- UM, I'M HAPPY YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME
BUT I'M REALLY NOT THAT DUMB
urgh
AWW
SQUEEZ
SORRY TO INTERRUPT
BUT BASICALLY YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT NOSAKACCHI SINCE SHE'S SO NAIVE, AND YOU WERE TRYING TO PROTECT HER, KOUHAI-CHAN?
WELL,
YOU'RE A GOOD KOUHAI THEN
You're a lucky girl Nosakacchi
Let's just leave it at that
Well...
ACTUALLY,
BEFORE SEMPAI GOES OFF TO COLLEGE AND GUYS START PUTTING THEIR FILTHY PAWS ALL OVER HER.
blush
I THOUGHT I'D SCOOP HER UP FIRST. ♥
THAT WAS MY PLAN ☆
ehe.
SNUGGLE

BUT... IT'S TRUE...
THAT I LOVE YOU, SEMPAI...
.....
...WELL ...SEE YOU, THEN...
I'll go on ahead with Ue-kun.
DON'T LEAVE ME HERE WITH HER~~~!
I want to tell anyone
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH
I LOVE YOU
I WANT YOU TO LOVE ME BACK.
U- UM, MICHIRU-CHAN-
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU, SEMPAI
...NO, THAT'S NOT ALL... I WANT TO BE THE PERSON WHO'S CLOSEST TO YOU
SQUEEZE

Gasp!
MICHI-...
...UNTIL YOU COME TO RETURN MY FEELINGS,
I'LL KEEP ON TRYING MY BEST.
KISS
Confessions of love,
romance, dreams...




Up until a little while ago,
they were just the stuff of dreams for me, things I yearned for blindly...
HEY, NOSAKACCHI,
HOW ARE THINGS GOING WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND?



But... Now I'm kind of wishing I could have kept living in my dream world...
For a little while longer...
DON'T WORRY, THERE'S NO WAY WE'D INVITE YOU GUYS.
OH! FRIEND A-SAN, IF YOU INVITE SEMPAI TO ANY MIXERS IN COLLEGE, PLEASE CALL ME TOO!

real love. ●END

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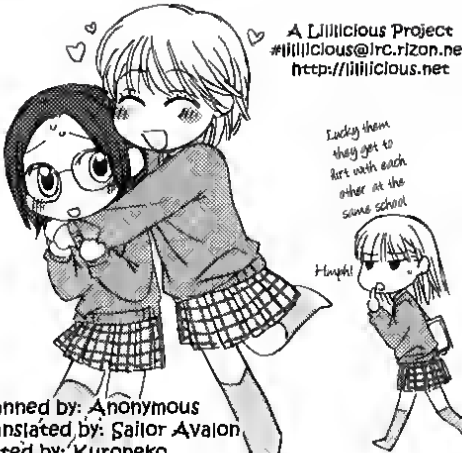
#lilliicious@irc.rizon.net
http://lilliicious.net



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Special Thanks: Aki

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lililicious@hanmail.net, http://lililicious.net